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State Conference Sparks Comments

by Kathleen Gault, NCTM
2015/2016 Conference Chair

As you all settle more deeply into your fall teaching, I hope you are finding ways to incorporate some of the new ideas shared by our 2015 conference presenters. For those of you haven't yet downloaded them, there is a link to the online handouts on the Conference page of the OMTA website. If you were unable to attend the conference, you can check out our fantastic presenter lineup, session descriptions and the handouts as well. <http://tinyurl.com/owpl2yw>

Conference presenters were thrilled by the many enthusiastic responses on the conference evaluation forms. A high percentage of attendees gave thoughtful, detailed feedback, as well as suggestions for future conferences. The Oregon Community Foundation, which provides us with substantial funding for our conferences, relies on such feedback for future funding decisions. Thank you so much for your comments.

Here is a small sampling of your comments:

Overall

"Positive and stimulating! Fabulous lineup of presenters."

"Wonderful to have a chance to talk with teachers from around the state — everyone is so friendly. Small, intimate, collegial."

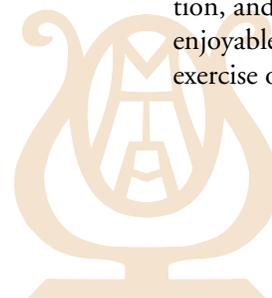
"Most relevant and cohesive conference I've ever attended. I loved every moment. Let's keep reminding ourselves about who we are teaching and how to best engage them."

Wendy Stevens

"I actually had tears in my eyes at Wendy's business practices session. I realized I have allowed my students and their families to run me ragged for years. I will be raising my rates, discontinuing all those make-up lessons, and stop 'bumping forward' missed lessons. I should be making more money and paying myself a fair wage."

"Rhythm Practice Should Be Fun' included happy audience participation, and really brought to life how enjoyable this previously tedious exercise of rhythm drills can be."

(Continued on next page)



State Conference Sparks Comments *(Continued)*

Forrest Kinney

“Endless inspiration and ideas for promoting freedom in my students and in myself, to explore improvising and finding our own personal musical voice.”

“His passion for improvising was very contagious, and his demos with both teachers and students were inspiring. It greatly helped me understand how better to use his books.”

Pete Jutras

“His talk comparing learning a musical instrument with video game playing gave me a new understanding of our students’ minds, and not just a critical spirit towards changes in our teaching world.”

“Really appreciated his research and information on teaching adults; it was fascinating, informative and very helpful for my own teaching.”

Claire Wachter

“A fantastic gift for piano teachers — watching these outstanding videos is like having a lesson with a master teacher. I can’t believe they are free on YouTube. They will add a very important learning tool in my studio.”

Alexander Tutunov

“His concert blew me away! His Beethoven absolutely took me to another world.” 🍷



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Audition Dates

Oct. 12, 2015*
Nov. 9, 2015*
Jan. 30, 2016

* Must audition on these dates for priority early action funding.

willamette.edu/go/musicauditions



President's Corner



Battling Burnout

As we're only a month into the new school year, it might seem like an odd time to talk about the dangers of burnout. But I imagine you, like many of us, are struggling to find balance between your personal and professional lives. While we may have enjoyed a restful and renewing summer, the deadlines of fall festivals, competitions, syllabus exams, and recitals are looming and the holidays are just around the corner. It can all feel a bit overwhelming at times, don't you agree?

I was proud to represent Oregon at the recent MTNA Leadership Summit in Cincinnati and am eager to share with you some information from a presentation given by our MTNA President, Rebecca Grooms Johnson. As most of you know, Becky was our honored guest at the state conference in June. She's gracious, wise, competent and caring and we're all very lucky to have her as a professional resource. The presentation she gave was on the prevention and treatment of burnout for those in leadership, but I feel many of her points are relevant to all of our members. Because, as teachers, aren't we all in a leadership role? Becky shared some very helpful tips from Beverly Potter's book, *Preventing Burnout: Transforming Work Pressures into Productivity*. I hope some of these are helpful:

- Recognition is important for feeling valued. People appreciate knowing when they've done something well. Be sure to give yourself credit for a job well done. You are your own best cheerleader.
- Break big tasks into small, achievable goals to overcome the inertia of getting started. "No step is too small so long as there is some stretch and movement forward."

- Manage your stress. Stress is the "fever" of burnout. When a person is sick, reducing the fever will make them more comfortable, but it will not heal the sickness. Take time for yourself to renew and refresh, and to heal.
- Build strong social support. You can tolerate more stress when you have caring and supportive relationships to lean on.
- Be sure that you are an effective time manager. We all can benefit from "tempo control." No one can function at "presto" all the time; you have to know how to set your own tempo. Determine realistic goals for your available time and pace your work to meet those goals. Inefficient time management creates its own stress.
- And most importantly, to avoid burnout, teach yourself to think powerfully and positively. Be yielding and flexible. Look for alternative and creative ways to reach your goals. Laugh a lot. And as the saying goes, "fake it 'til you feel it!"

Good luck and best wishes for a successful teaching year!

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

Cindy Peterson-Peart, NCTM
President, OMTA



Jan Mittelstaedt, NCTA



ESMAR: Extended Study of Musicianship and Repertoire OR Excellent Students Move Ahead Rapidly

ESMAR is such a wonderful program for my students, and for me! Since this program was adopted as an OMTA pilot program (2011) and accepted under the Education Umbrella (2013), six of my students have been part of ESMAR. Of these six, only one has chosen music for her major.

ESMAR is not just for aspiring music students. All six of my students had an exciting goal for which to strive, and were introduced to improvisation, harmonizing a lead line, playing by ear, new scale and arpeggio routines, a new chord progression, community service in the field of music, planning a recital, and exciting new repertoire. They each grew as musicians in ways which wouldn't have been possible without this outstanding OMTA program.

I am not the only one who has benefited from ESMAR. The following are a few quotations from students and teachers who have participated in our unique program:

- Amy loved the scale routine and arpeggio routine. They gave her an interesting and beautiful way to do her warmups, not only for practice and lessons, but also at her college auditions. She also enjoyed reading through most of the Bach chorales and took a Bach two-part Invention to tap out its rhythm each week. She had not done improvisation before, so the ear training was excellent for her (teacher).
- ESMAR was a good continuing education for me in becoming acquainted with the scale and arpeggio routine, and also seeing my student through the preparation of it all (teacher).
- I obviously think this is a valuable program and a good preparation for college-bound music students. I learned a new scale warm-up, so was glad to shake that part up in my studio (teacher).
- I really enjoyed the master class. It was good to receive live and professional feedback on my performance and suggestions on methods to improve (student).
- My favorite part of ESMAR preparation was the variety of scales and arpeggios available to prepare for. My least favorite part was preparing for transposing multiple pieces like the Star Spangled Banner (student).
- My favorite part is probably the last 30 minutes of the exam when Dr. Timmons gave me helpful suggestions that ranged from hand technique to pedal usage (student).
- My favorite part was the master class. I feel like I learned so much! Dr. Timmons gives amazing feedback, and she's incredibly nice, which helped calm my nerves a little (student).
- The best part of the ESMAR program was the masterclass. The students were very responsive to Jill Timmons, and we in the audience could hear instant improvement as the students understood and implemented her suggestions (observing teacher who did not have a student in the program).

If you have a student who is interested in the 2015–2016 ESMAR program, please contact me at: janrm@frontier.com. If you are unfamiliar with ESMAR, I'd be happy to meet with you to discuss the requirements. And, if you missed Alona Maizlin's article in the September *Music News*, please visit pages 8–10 in that issue. 



Willamette University
Grace Goudy Distinguished Artists Series
2015-16 Season presents

LARA ST. JOHN, VIOLIN

Thursday, November 19, 7:30 p.m.
Hudson Concert Hall, Mary Stuart Rogers Music Center



Canadian-born violinist Lara St. John has been described as "something of a phenomenon" by *The Strad* and a "high-powered soloist" by the *New York Times*.

She has performed as soloist with the orchestras of Cleveland, Philadelphia, San Francisco, Seattle, Toronto, Montreal, Vancouver, and with the Boston Pops, the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, NDR Symphony, Zurich Chamber Orchestra, Camerata Ireland, Amsterdam Symphony, Brazilian Symphony, Sao Paulo Symphony, China Philharmonic, Hong Kong Symphony, Tokyo Symphony, and the orchestras of Brisbane, Adelaide and Auckland among many others.

The Los Angeles Times wrote "Lara St. John happens to be a volcanic violinist with a huge, fabulous tone that pours out of her like molten lava. She has technique to burn and plays at a constant high heat."

Lara created her record own label, Ancalagon, in 1999, and has recorded with the Royal Philharmonic, the Simon Bolivar Youth Orchestra of Venezuela and The Knights, with which she won the Juno award in 2011 for her Mozart album. Of her Bach Six Sonatas and Partitas for Violin Solo, *American Record Guide* wrote: "I simply don't know where else you can go to hear Bach played at this level of artistry. Once again she eclipses her competition."

Lara began playing the violin when she was two years old. She made her first appearance as soloist with orchestra at age four, and her European debut with the Gulbenkian Orchestra in Lisbon when she was 10. She toured Spain, France, Portugal and Hungary at ages 12 and 13, entered the Curtis Institute at 13, and spent her first summer at Marlboro three years later. Her teachers have included Felix Galimir and Joey Corpus.

She performs on the 1779 "Salabue" Guaragnini thanks to an anonymous donor and Heintz & Co. of Toronto.

Lara St. John happens to be a volcanic violinist with a huge, fabulous tone that pours out of her like molten lava. She has technique to burn and plays at a constant high heat. She is uninhibited, sometimes strikingly so....But what makes her unique is the way she puts everything together. She has utter command of the material and the instrument. And she has seemingly utter spontaneity....

— *L.A. Times November 15th, 2011*

www.larastjohn.com

MASTER CLASS FOR STRINGS — free and open to the public.

Wed. Nov. 18, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m., Hudson Concert Hall

CONCERT TICKETS — general admission seating

Season Tickets Adults (3 concerts) \$60; Single Tickets \$23

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

Available at the Willamette University Music Department, 503-370-6255

willamette.edu/arts/goudyartistseries



Sherrene Walker
Membership Chair



OMTA Keeps on Growing!

I am so grateful to Liz Willis for her help in orienting me to the OMTA Membership Chair position. She has done such an excellent job during her tenure, and has graciously guided me to know how to continue this process smoothly.

It is a real privilege to serve OMTA as State Membership Chair. I still remember when I joined OMTA in 1987 after teaching on my own for several years. I am so grateful for all I have learned, and continue to learn through the many opportunities available to OMTA members locally and statewide. Also, the events available to my students have helped them each reach their greatest musical potential. I consider membership in OMTA non-optional for my studio, and always renew immediately when I get my renewal reminder so I don't miss out on anything with OMTA.

If you haven't renewed yet, you will want to do so immediately so that your membership can be processed through MTNA in time for your local and district events coming up, such as Fall Syllabus. Since it all goes through our national office now, it is much easier, but we need time to process each application and renewal before you can participate!

Also, Robin and Caris at our OMTA State Office, have been busy working to make our state data work with the new MTNA systems. They have worked diligently to bring it all into alignment and as a result, below you will see a list of 39 new OMTA members. All these have been processed through the MTNA site since our last report of new members in the June issue of the Music News. District Membership Chairs and District Presidents are excited to reach out to each one of these new members and make them feel welcome. Please take note of the new members in your district, and make a special effort to make them feel welcome! 

Central Oregon

Angelina Anello-Dennee
Rebecca Smith
Janet Smith
Virginia Reber

Eugene

Tessira German
Cara Haxo
Heather Kunz
Matthew Pavilanis

Lincoln County

Nelleke Knarr

Portland

Tiffany Barclay
Christopher Baum
Elvira Bereznyay
Chungwon Lydia Chung
Jean-David Coen
Anna Cosma
Amy Daugherty
Kari Ferguson
Dr. Rebecca Hanson
Dana Heer
Adriana Hretcanu
Rene Ormae-Jarmer
Monica Johnson
Dr. Albert Kim
Grace Lukman
Darin Niebuhr
Cathy Pousson
Alice Sheu
Annette Upton
Lorraine Yant
Olivia Natalee Ngalam Yiu
Wesley Yurovchak

Rogue Valley

Hanlie Pienaar
Mary Venard

Salem

Marcy Davis
Susan Johnson

Tualatin Valley

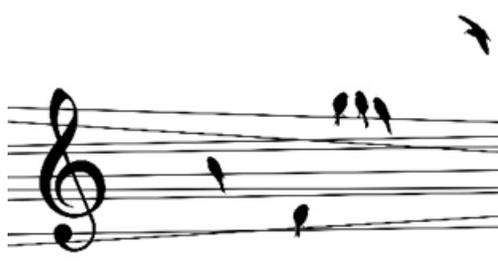
Elizabeth Cichoski (student)
Yumie Miyatake
Judy Parker
Gaye Rumsey-Riggs

Umatilla

Roberta Windham



Susan Todd, NCTM



Grants Galore, All Over Oregon— OMTA District Projects Grant Programs

All OMTA members and non-member teachers are welcome to attend!

Friday, October 2 10:00–12:00

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
1770 Baxter Rd. SE, Salem
DR. JEANINE JACOBSON, NCTM

I Love This Piece!

Guidelines for selecting repertoire that is pedagogically sound and that students will love.

Saturday, October 3 10:00–12:00

The Christian Science Church
701 Washington St., The Dalles
DR. JEANINE JACOBSON, NCTM
*Effective and Efficient Practice and
A Good Lesson is Not Reliant on How
Much or Little the Student Has Practiced*

Helping teachers prepare students for practice with the most learning in the least amount of time, and making a lesson a positive, effective learning experience when the student hasn't practiced.

Tuesday, October 7 9:30–12:00

Portland Piano Company
711 SW 14th Ave, Portland
TOBY KOENIGSBERG
The New OMTA Jazz Syllabus
Introducing OMTA's new, updated,
accessible Jazz Syllabus curriculum

(Continued on next page)

Central Oregon Symphony Association 2016 Young Artist Competition

Saturday, January 9, 2016
Central Oregon Community
College, Bend, OR

First Place: \$1000
Second Place: \$750
Third Place: \$500

Winners will perform with the
Central Oregon Symphony
during the February 13-15, 2016
concerts.

Visit the COSA website for
details and registration forms:
www.cosymphony.com/yac.htm



State News *District Grants (Continued)*

Saturday, October 17 10:00–12:00

Oregon Coast Community College
Music Room

3120 Crestline Drive, Waldport

DR. DIANE BAXTER, NCTM

Stepping into the Light:

Thoughts on Performance Anxiety

Introducing some of the causes of performance anxiety, and offering tips on how to do your best under duress.

Monday, October 19 10:00–12:00

Douglas County Library

1409 NE Diamond Lake Blvd., Roseburg

TOBY KOENIGSBERG

The New OMTA Jazz Syllabus

Introducing OMTA's new, updated, accessible Jazz Syllabus curriculum

October 22–23

First Presbyterian Church

601 Pine St., Klamath Falls

DR. KENN WILSON

Encounters with Beethoven

A Multi-Media Piano Recital with slides, humor, cartoons and information about Beethoven, the man—A two-day workshop including a concert and masterclass sessions.

October 22–23

Friday

Studio of Liz Cooper

Saturday

Eastern Oregon University, La Grande

MARY HALL KOGEN

Communication Skills for the Music Educator: Teaching from the Heart

The Use of the Question, Active Listening, Purpose, Discipline, Responsibility and Trust, Motivation and the Brain, Emotions and Learning, Teaching from the Heart, and Five Skills to Promote Creativity in your Teaching.

Saturday, October 31 10:00–12:00

First Presbyterian Church

201 SW Dorion Ave., Pendleton

DR. DAVID HYUN-SU KIM

A Historical Performance: Old Pianos and New Musicianship

Lecture-demonstration, with a piano from Beethoven's time, placed side-by-side with the modern piano. Demonstrating how instruments influence composition, notation, and performance.

Tuesday, November 17 10:00–12:00

Linn-Benton District—location TBA

JOSEPH HOFFMAN

Training the Ear and the Eye from the Start
Demonstrating an innovative method for teaching piano to young children. 🎹



Eileen Knox, NCTM



Supporting Teachers of Students in Need

Help for Your Needy Students

WHAT IS MUSICLINK?

We're a national non-profit foundation, with an affiliate in Oregon, founded to help music teachers who provide tuition scholarships for students in financial need.

Benefits Include ...

For Teachers:

- Networking opportunities with other MusicLink teachers nationwide
- National recognition in LINK newsletter and website
- Discounts on teaching materials, theory games, electronics, web design, software, play-along tracks and event tickets
- Discounts on training workshops for early childhood teachers

For Students:

- Free music and educational materials like metronomes
- Free piano tuning
- Free Syllabus and Festival performance opportunities
- Donated or discounted instruments
- Free concert tickets
- Scholarship opportunities for summer music camps and continuing education

In addition to these benefits, there is also the great feeling we get when we reach out to help someone less fortunate than ourselves.

OMTA MusicLink

Because every child deserves a music education

For more information, contact:

Eileen Knox, NCTM

eileenknox@me.com

Or visit:

www.musiclinkfoundation.org

Did you know?

You can support MusicLink by linking the organization to your Amazon account.

Visit www.smile.amazon.com online and follow the directions to select MusicLink Foundation.

The Amazon Smile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of your Amazon purchases at no cost to you. 



State News *MTNA Election — Time to Vote!*

Susan Todd, NCTM



Northwest Division Leadership

Quick! Grab your August/September 2015 copy of *The American Music Teacher* and turn to page 43. You'll see a picture of two outstanding NW Division members.

I've had the pleasure of knowing both of the candidates for NW Division Director for many years. If you'd like to know more about either of them, you can write them directly, or I'd be happy to tell you any of several examples of their commitment to MTNA and the professionalism

of our organization. You may not realize it, but the members who serve on our MTNA board help represent each of us as they work on the policies and direction our organization embraces.

Join me in considering these two fine candidates and making your choice. The election will occur in February. You'll receive an email notice from MTNA, or you can send in the paper ballot that will arrive in your AMT. *Remember to vote!* 



O UNIVERSITY OF OREGON | School of Music and Dance EO/AA/ADA institution committed to cultural diversity.

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Hannah Violette
Baker City



La Grande's Musical Paradise: Emerson Music Arts

What seems like a fairly nondescript, ranch-style home on Sunset Drive in La Grande, Oregon, is actually a cleverly disguised oasis for the music students that find themselves enrolled at Emerson Music Arts. A small, tasteful sandwich-board on the sidewalk is the only indication that anything but Brady Bunch living happens within. Even the main living space belies only a houseful of teenagers who leave dishes on the counter and don't always hang up their jackets.

Upon descending into the daylight basement, however, the home transforms into what could only be described as a musician's paradise. Immediately met by a nine foot Steinway (enough to fill the rest of my life by itself), one also takes in a double digital keyboard set-up, drum set, guitars (acoustic and electric) and a [vintage] Rhodes. Flanking the walls of the hallway are marimba and vibes. Last but not least, a 33 inch computer screen perches atop a sizeable antique desk, easily accessible from the piano.



Lea Emerson, Blue Mountain District Member

The person behind Emerson Music Arts is Lea Emerson, member of OMTA Blue Mountain District. Accompanied (pun very much intended) by her husband, Mark (himself a professional percussionist and certified Orff-Schuelwerk instructor), the students of La Grande have access to music education far beyond the traditional, rural setting in which they live. From Orff-Schuelwerk classes for toddlers to instruction in classical, jazz, funk and pop composition and performance, from piano to guitar to percussion, with everything supported by modern technology, there really is something for everyone.

Lea grew up in La Grande and started playing the piano at age seven. Studying first with Teresa Miller, she developed a strong love for jazz and ragtime, and developed the reading skills to go with that passion. She later studied with the long-time loved and respected OMTA member, Joanne Price, who prepared her for entrance into the University of Oregon, where she studied with Dean Kramer. "Dean really turned things around for me as far as loving classical music ... the way he taught, the way he performed." From Dean and his wife, Claire Wachter, Lea learned to perform easily and well, making transition into a graduate program effortless. In 1992 Lea earned her MFA in Piano Performance from UCLA, where she studied with Antoinette Perry.

After college Lea and her husband settled in the South Bay of California where Lea taught piano for *Music Rhapsody*, a highly respected Orff-Schuelwerk program. From this she developed her own studio and spent the next 10 years living as a self-employed teacher and performer, always active with MTNA through the California affiliate, MTAC.

She and Mark then formed a jazz-infused pop band, Envoy, for which she wrote the music. As a lifelong jazz lover,

(Continued on next page)



this move really played to her strengths, and the band, which continues to perform, has several albums available on iTunes. She simultaneously served as the Director of Music Ministries for the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd in Torrance, California, where she was fully responsible for the musical life of a congregation 400 strong, including worship planning, songwriting, musician development, and retreat planning and leading.

2012 brought an unexpected move back to her home, La Grande, where they could be closer to family. Without jobs waiting and the culture and lifestyle of Los Angeles now behind them, they began Emerson Music Arts, with only “relational capital” and the sandwich-board sign to jump start a rural music education business—a challenge for anyone. Lea attributes her success as a music teacher in a tiny community not to her degrees, extensive teaching experience, or award-winning

songwriting reputation, but to her status as a La Grande high school graduate and, of course, a “Duck.” She also attributes it to constant performing, whether as a church musician, volunteer high school choir accompanist, or with an ensemble. “Hearing one play builds credibility. You don’t need to have a full hour recital to perform—just put a few pieces together that you do really well and take whatever opportunity comes.”

La Grande is fortunate to have Lea, one of its own, teaching its own. “I teach because I actually really love to teach. I get so much joy from playing, and I get a lot of joy from helping someone experience the same thing. Whether it’s learning a blues lick or discovering the sound of their voice mixing with the piano ... I want to help someone else do it! I want to help them and give them every opportunity I can.”

For more on Lea, Mark, and Emerson Music Arts, please visit:

www.emersonmusicarts.com. 



Helen Jones, NCTM



Starting Strong in Central Oregon

Fall is the time teachers regroup for a new school year. There's something exciting about seeing our students, giving them new pieces and seeing they have grown several inches over the summer.

Our September 11 meeting and program was the perfect medicine to enthuse us for the new teaching year. It was a chance to catch up with fellow teachers and welcome our new members: Angelina Anello-Dennee, Virginia Reber, Janet Smith and Rebecca Smith.

Dorothy Fahlman NCTM, presented the program, "Syllabus, What's in it for You?" at her lovely Sunriver home. She

shared wonderful stories of her years of doing Syllabus and the lasting benefits to both teachers and students. We are so glad Dorothy spends time in the summer in Sunriver.

We have exciting student events planned for 2015–16: Fall Syllabus, Student's Choice Recital November 14, Baroque/Classic Festival February 20, Spring Syllabus, and Ensemble Recitals on June 4.

Helen Jones, NCTM traveled to Ashland in September, where she joined five other Tholen Fellows in this inaugural year of providing private piano lessons with Master teachers. Provided by the Portland Piano International/Oregon Community Foundation Nellie Tholen Fund, this program provides private study opportunities for teachers in outlying districts of OMTA. Helen has finished a total of six private lessons with Alexander Shtarkman from Peabody. The final two three-day sessions will be in November and February in Ashland. She will relate her experiences in a Central Oregon District monthly program in the spring. 



Kathy Gault, "Beethoven," and Patti Petersen.



Alexander Shtarkman and Helen Jones.



District News *Eugene*

Fern McArthur, NCTM



Teachers in the Eugene District are looking forward to an exciting and busy Fall season and are glad to welcome five new members! We always begin our student activities with an October Festival of Popular Music. This is a big hit with the students, who perform some of their favorite pieces and the repertoire is suitable for a wide range of difficulty. We are also preparing for Ensemble Festival, Syllabus and our annual fund raiser which finds our students performing at the local Barnes and Noble bookstore in December.

Eugene District is honored to once again host the State Sonata and Sonatina Festival on October 24. We are hoping for a robust participation from around the state and look forward to seeing many of you here.

Our “kick-off” meeting featured guest speaker Toby Koenigsberg, Jazz Professor at the University of Oregon. Toby gave us an overview of the new Jazz Syllabus which he has created with input from Steve Owen, Suzanne Savaria and Ellen McQuilkin. His presentation generated many questions and much interest among our members, and we look forward to introducing this genre to our students with new ideas and materials.

Future meetings will feature Peter Gach, Professor Emeritus at Palomar College, a visit from our State President, Cindy Peterson-Peart, and our annual December potluck and playing party.

Please check out our website www.omta-eugene.org for upcoming events and meetings. We invite all to join us when you're in the area. 



District News *Portland*

Deborah Cleaver



Fall news and events in the Portland District!

Portland OMTA's September blog is online, with news about their many activities in the Fall season. Please note changes in their various Festival requirements!

<https://omtaportland.wordpress.com/>



District News *Tualatin Valley*

Sherry Poole Todd



Tualatin Valley OMTA members at our September meeting.

She's Starting Him Young

Remember the name, folks! When he finally makes his music debut, we can boast that Wesley Peter Granat first attended an OMTA piano workshop at the tender age of just six weeks! 🌸



Mother Andrea Granat introduces six-week old Wesley to her fellow teachers at Tualatin Valley's September meeting.

(Continued on next page)



District News *Tualatin Valley (Continued)*

Spooky Treats for Tualatin Valley!

What a “Spooky Treat” came our way when our own Tualatin Valley presenters Heidi Evans and Bev Mayhew offered us a workshop worthy of a national presentation!

Spooky Improvisation in Six Easy Lessons incorporates choice October listening selections like Bach’s *Tocatta in D minor* for organ, Chopin’s *Funeral March*, Mussorgsky’s *Night on Bald Mountain*, and more.

You could think of many other creepy and moving selections to capture a student’s interest. What a perfect time to incorporate some listening in your studio and let imaginations soar. Even littler ones can respond to the music by jumping, moving arms, crouching, and creeping.

A next step might be to take a simple motif from the music to the piano (or any instrument) for your own duet improv with the teacher, or some solo exploration. Heidi and Bev gave us a template for improvisations tied to each piece, and a list of over thirty hauntingly appropriate repertoire choices for this month and beyond. Each piece listed was leveled and briefly described.

Get these two to take their show on the road, either visiting your district or stirring things up at a future conference. It was a spooky treat! 🍂



Bev (left) and Heidi (right) receiving a “Thank You” after their debut presentation!



Heidi described each type of “Spooky Improv,” then she played “Teacher and Bev played “Student.”



Heidi Evans and Bev Mayhew playing a sample of a Teacher/Student Improv activity.



THE VON TRAPPS



The Historic
Von Trapp
Family Singers

TUALATIN VALLEY DISTRICT OF OREGON MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION -
MTNA 2015 AFFILIATE OF THE YEAR, IS PROUD TO HOST THE VON TRAPPS

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2015 @ 10:00 -11:30 AM

FREE

Followed by a Meet and Greet Reception

Oregon State Schools Closed for Professional Day - Students, Families, Teachers and the Community
are invited to join us for "A Morning of Exquisite Harmonies with The Von Trapps"

Tigard United Methodist
9845 SW Walnut Place
Tigard, OR 97223

For Info: 408.807.0495

The history continues as the great-grandchildren of Captain and **Maria von Trapp** take up the family tradition anew. Meet Sofi, Melanie, Amanda, and August von Trapp, four siblings that, for the last

twelve years, have been singing on stages around the world to critical acclaim and packed houses.

The von Trapps made their Carnegie Hall debut in December 2012 with **Pink Martini**. The Album titled.

Dream a Little Dream is a collaborative studio album released by Heinz Records on March 4, 2014 and is the first major international release by the **von Trapps**.

website: tvomta.org



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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.

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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

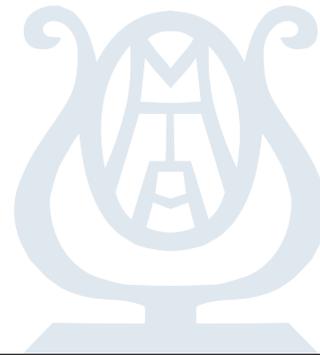
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November 15, 2015

December 15, 2015

January 15, 2016

