

OMTA Music News

Opus 71

April 2017

No. 8



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Time to Register for the Conference!

by Selena Manson, Conference Chair

The annual OMTA State Conference is now open for registration. The dates are July 14–16, located at Chinook Winds Casino and Resort in Lincoln City. Registration is available online at:

<http://tinyurl.com/mwqxwal>

Early bird registration with a reduced rate of \$135 is available from now until June 1. Registration from June until the conference will be \$165 for OMTA members. There are also day passes, family passes, etc. available for purchase online.

Lunches are buffets, and are included with registration unless otherwise noted. The banquet dinner tickets are \$30, and menu selections are available on the registration site.

Financial incentives for OMTA members:

- New members of MTNA and OMTA, since July 2015, register for free
- Travel grants for ongoing members (joined before July 2015) who are new attendees of the conference
- Free registration for college students, lunches not included
- Room rebates for up to half the cost of a double queen room for those who might otherwise not be able to afford the conference

Hotel rooms are available to reserve now!

CHINOOK WINDS HOTEL features Deluxe Rooms, offering a single king or double queen beds and full ocean view, for \$154 per night. They also have budget friendly,

(Continued on next page)



Time to Register for the Conference! (Continued)

Compact Rooms featuring a single queen bed and casino view, for \$79 per night.

Their sister hotel **LIBERTY INN**, located down the street, features Deluxe rooms for \$149 per night. These rooms offer single king, single queen, or double queen beds, with distant ocean view or forest view. Stays can be extended for three days before or after the conference for the same reduced rates!

Contact Chinook Winds Casino Resort Hotel at (541) 994-3655 or Liberty Inn at (541) 994-1777 to make your reservation. Please reference the OMTA state conference to receive these rates.

Business meetings will occur on Thursday, July 13 in the oceanfront Sandpiper and Neptune rooms.

Our conference officially begins Friday morning and features presentations by Dr. Kiyoshi Tamagawa, Dr. Margarita Denenburg, and Dr. Julie Knerr. There will also be two concerts Friday, the Composer of the Year, and a special Lincoln County evening concert.

Master Class

Saturday's schedule continues with three presentations. Our concert artist Dr. Kiyoshi Tamagawa will teach an intermediate/advanced master class featuring Baroque literature. If you have a student that would like to play in the master class please send their name, age, and selection to Selina Manson at selina.manson@gmail.com for consideration. In the evening our banquet dinner and awards will be followed by our Artist Concert.

Our conference will end on Sunday at noon following our general membership meeting and the final presentation by Dr. Kiyoshi Tamagawa.

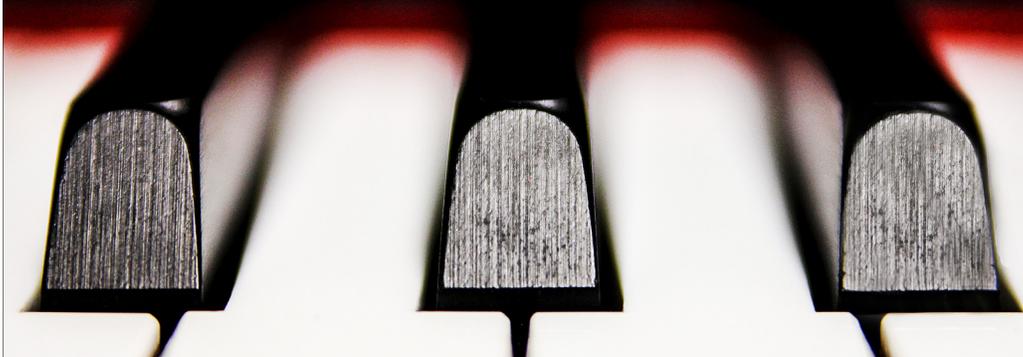
Please remember to bring your donations for our wall of wine raffle and our silent auction. These funds are for the OMTA and MTNA Foundation.

Information for the conference can be found on the OMTA website. A detailed schedule of events will be available soon. Can't wait to see everyone at the beach! 🌿

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President's Corner



Kathy Gault, NCTM
OMTA President



Dispatches from the Front

There are a million things in music I know nothing about. I just want to narrow down that figure.

—ANDRE PREVIN

Dear Colleagues,

This month, rather than a regular Letter of Presidential Encouragement, I'd like to share a few of the scenes surrounding me here at the MTNA National Conference in Baltimore, as well as thoughts about attending conferences.

As your OMTA President, I am expected to attend state and national conferences during my years in office, as well as Northwest Division meetings, competitions and other official events as they occur. To be honest, it is more travel than I am used to doing, and because I live 3+ hours from Portland, there is always an extra leg or two for every flight I take. It takes time out of my teaching schedule and the little extra oomph of physical and mental energy necessary to face the rigors of modern travel. But attending our wonderful state and

national conferences is pure pleasure that is well worth the time and trouble, and something I do religiously because of the huge boost to my spirits and teaching expertise I gain from each one.

Taking the Plunge

I attended my first national conference in 1979, in Seattle. I was 29 years old and had been teaching for only a few years, but as soon as I joined OMTA, I began faithfully attending our state conferences, and already I could tell that such regular infusions of new ideas and learning were going to be vital to me for growth as a teacher. When I read that the MTNA national conference was going to be held in Seattle, I figured, what the heck, I can stay with my college friend Laurel and it's only a couple of

hours away by plane (planes were slower in 1979)—I'll do it.

Uncharacteristically for me, a shy introvert, I went alone, and the first morning as I stumbled into the hotel ballroom, I realized the ante had been raised on my concept of what a conference could be. I literally

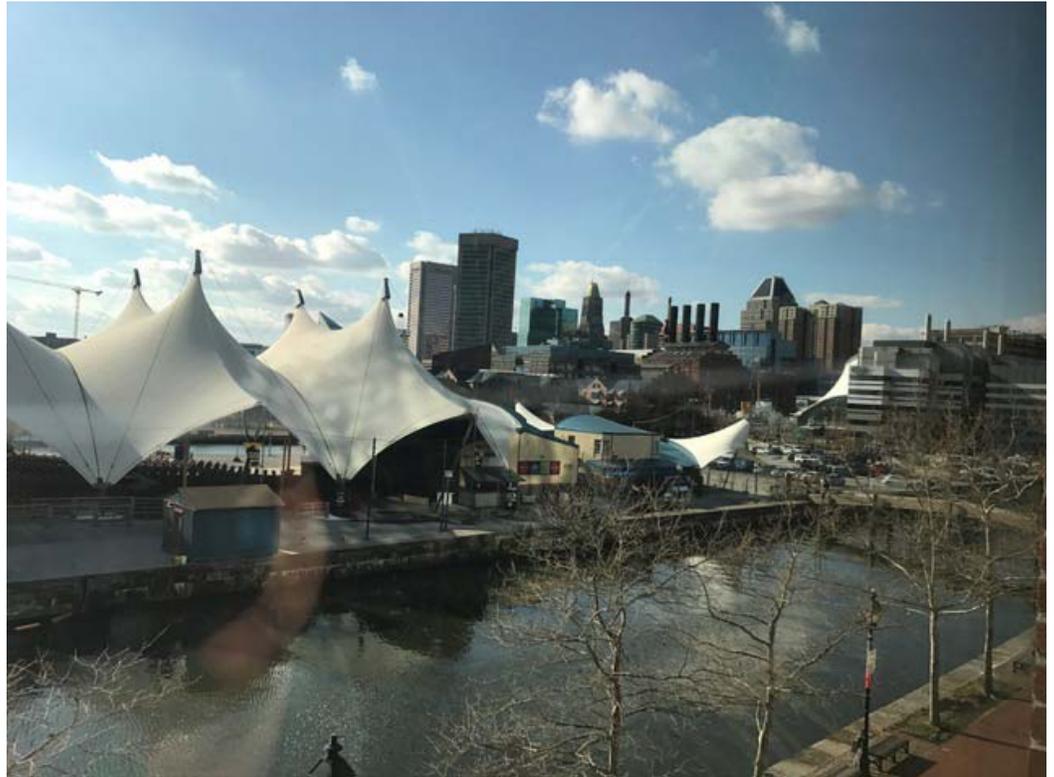
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Rubbing Shoulders with Composers Martha Meir and Glenda Austin



President's Corner (Continued)



View of Downtown Baltimore

pigged out on sessions ranging from a live demonstration of clavichord technique and sound, to a hands-on session on playing and teaching with steel drums. I know. Totally cool, right?!

That was only the beginning. One day I stumbled on the vendor room, and after that I was lost. I can't tell you how much music I bought, at wonderful discounts. It's a wonder I got home with my suitcase intact. (No extra baggage fees in those days!) And I got to meet and chat with some of the leading pedagogues and performers of the day, whom even I, in my remote little corner of Oregon, had heard of. I was hooked.

Fast Forward to Baltimore 2017

And that brings me to Baltimore in 2017. A new city, an exciting new roster of speakers and sessions, amazing live performances by national and international artists as well as exciting student competitors, and the energizing presence of a colleagues from all over the USA and Canada. We are all having a swell time here, my friends, and I want to take this opportunity to ask you to seriously consider making plans to attend a conference in 2018 or 2019, especially if you have never attended one before.

I know attending a national conference is a big expense, and not within everyone's budget. But with advance planning and a strong desire, it is possible to attend a state or national conference in the next year

Music is not just a career option, it's a way to change the world.

—DAVID CUTLER

(MTNA National Conference Baltimore March 21, 2017)

(Continued on next page)



President's Corner (Continued)



or two. Remember, it is a tax-deductible professional expense, and you can write off travel, meals and other expenses. OMTA is so fortunate—and believe me, we are the envy of many other states for this—to have great financial support available through our Teacher Improvement Fund and OCF grant, both of which help our members attend our state conferences.

July at the Beach

I hope you have our OMTA state conference already on your calendar this coming July. I have been tracking down some of our presenters here at MTNA, and they are already excited about coming to Oregon. Also, in reconnecting with some of our recent OMTA conference presenters, all have greeted me with excitement, recalling happy memories of their time in Oregon. And that's another really exciting part of attending a national conference: walking down the halls with the movers and shakers of our 21st century music teaching world, eating breakfast with nationally and internationally known bloggers, chatting with publishers and editors and performers. Inspiring!

I hope to see you at our OMTA state conference this summer: July 14,15,16 in Lincoln City. And put Orlando on your calendar in March 2018, or perhaps start saving for future national conferences in Chicago and Spokane. See you soon!

Kathy Gault NCTM
OMTA President



Piano Safari Author Julie Knerr (L), a 2017 OMTA State Conference Presenter, and Co-author Katherine Fisher



Swag from Twice-daily Publisher Showcases



State News *OMTA District Projects Grant Programs*

Susan Todd, NCTM

OMTA District Projects

Grant Coordinator



Teacher Enrichment for All!

Do you have a colleague who is not a member of OMTA, but whom you know would benefit from membership? Our District Projects Grant programs are for the benefit of all music teachers and musicians in your area, and are offered at no charge. Do invite them to one of the workshops below!

UPCOMING PRESENTATIONS:

Friday & Saturday, April 7 & 8

Lincoln County District

Contact Jessie Treon for details

DR. ALEXANDER TUTUNOV, NCTM:

Master Classes

Monday, April 17

10:00 a.m.–Noon

Roseburg District

Studio of Marti Magnussen

581 Thompson Ave., Winston 97496

MARY HALL KOGEN: *Learning and*

Memory In this workshop we will cover

steps toward freedom from the score,

practical applications of music theory

and more!

Tuesday, April 18

10:00 a.m.–11:30 a.m.

Linn-Benton District

First Congregational United Church of Christ

4515 West Hills Road, Corvallis

DANIEL STEPHENS & JUDITH KENNEDY:

Authentic Baroque Dance Examin-

ing Baroque dance music through the

medium of steps, patterns and dances

from the period.

Friday, April 21

10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Klamath Basin District

First Presbyterian Church

601 Pine Street, Klamath Falls

DR. BONNIE ESBENSEN: *Cognitive Aspects*

of Music: Talent Learn how practice

changes the brain and what kind of

practice is most likely to lead to expert

performance.

Friday, May 5

10:00 a.m.–Noon

Lincoln County District

Oregon Coast Community College

Music Room, South Beach Campus

400 SE College Way, Newport

PAUL SAFAR: *Guiding your Piano Student*

in Composition Ideas to inspire,

encourage and support a student in

their early attempts at composing.

Friday & Saturday, May 5 & 6

Blue Mountain District

Contact Lanetta Paul for details

PAULA WATT, NCTM: *Teacher Training:*

Using Syllabus but Going Deeper Setting

a good foundation in the beginning

student; Teaching kids how to practice;

Combining method books with clas-

sical literature; Building sight-reading

skills; Memorization; Fingering and

mapping; Finding syllabus in the mus-

ic, and more.

Friday, May 12

Details TBA

Central Oregon District

DEBORAH CLEAVER: *The Art of the*

Sarabande Examine the history of the

dance and its steps, the characteristic

rhythmic patterns, ornamentation, and

rhythmic freedom.

(Continued on next page)



State News *OMTA District Projects Grant Programs (Continued)*



Saturday, May 13

Details TBA

Mid-Columbia District

JENNIFER WRIGHT: *Show 'em Who's The Man* Proven techniques that eradicate performance anxiety once and for all!

Saturday, May 20

10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Umatilla-Morrow District

(Rescheduled from January 14)

Pendleton Presbyterian Church

201 SW Dorion, Pendleton

DR. MICHAEL SEREGOW: *Scaling Parnassus: The Sequential Development of Piano Mastery* Michael Seregow offers guidance in designing a curriculum for the Intermediate student who is beyond the method books.

Friday, June 9

Details TBA

Central Oregon District

DR. BONNIE ESBENSEN: *Practicing and Coaching: Ideas from Psychology and Sports*

PRESENTATIONS ONLINE:

You can view past presentations online at:

<http://tinyurl.com/zxluqok>

NOW AVAILABLE!

Nurturing Potential into Passion

Interactive lecture focusing on the stages of motivation, and tips and tricks to keep students practicing, progressing and staying on the bench for a lifetime.

Presenter: Leila Viss

Host: Tualatin Valley District, February 2017

Starter Steps for Playing Eighteenth-Century Repertoire on the Modern Piano

Relevant and applicable for all who play or teach the works of Haydn, Beethoven, or Mozart

Presenter: Donna Gunn

Host: Portland District, November, 2016

Teaching the Special Learner

Wisdom and Strategies for the Independent Music Teacher

Presenter: Emily Ross, MA, MT-BC

Host: Portland District, October, 2016

Tips for Preparing for Syllabus Exams

Presenter: Heidi Evans, NCTM

Host: Salem District, January, 2016

Music and the Brain

How We Hear and Understand Melody and Rhythm; plus *Succeeding with Sonatinas*

Presenter: Dr. Crystal Zimmerman

Host: Tualatin Valley District, January, 2016

Authentic Baroque Dance

Presenters: Judith Kennedy & Daniel Stephens

Host: Portland District, February, 2016



State News *Tualatin Valley Member Highlights*

Sherry Todd
Tualatin Valley



Stellar Members Make Your District Shine!

Like most of you, we have a core group of hard working individuals who shoulder the responsibilities of running festivals and monthly events in our group. This month, I would like to applaud two members with shiny gold halos in their own words:

SUSAN MARANDAS

Piano teaching is a second career for me. Although I studied piano all through college and many years thereafter, I was a history teacher for almost 25 years. During this time I obtained a Master's Degree in International Relations and received an award from the Oregon Social Studies Council as the Outstanding Teacher of the Year. When I decided I would like a lifestyle change, I went back to school and graduated with a music degree from Marylhurst College. My senior recital occurred the year I became a senior citizen! Studying music is a never-ending process. I continued taking lessons from Tim Nickel and Mark Westcott, and was active in our chapter. Being Secretary, Vice-President, and President helped me and my students take advantage of more opportunities. I instituted *The Playing Class* (now *The Professional Development Class with Anne Young*) to encourage our teachers to continue developing their skills and share with one another. Of course, I have a life outside of piano. That includes my three adult children and six grandchildren. Three of my grandchildren live nearby and study with me!

BEVERLY MAYHEW

After hearing Mary Hall Kogen's presentation at a District II workshop in Olympia, Washington in the mid-eighties I came to PSU and with Guy Duckworth and Keyboard Explorer, I spent a week learning about the whole process of starting students in groups (I already owned a piano lab). My speciality is teaching beginning music

reading with the goal of "working myself out of a job." Once a student can read they can teach themselves! Lately, (like the class Heidi Evans and I offered last summer) I am pursuing 40 short pieces a year at every level of our Syllabus. I much prefer the notion that students have success every week, rather than getting four pieces a year ready for this or that competition. Our instrument has the most music. We will never run out of pieces to learn and teach. Why not learn a new piece every week!

I particularly appreciate the dedication Bev shows driving 45 miles from Salem to our monthly meetings, while battling cancer and the myriad treatments and appointments she endures. I find these ladies exemplify the spirit of working together for continuing education and the betterment of our students. 

FOR SALE

1972 Dowd French Harpsichord



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Contact: jane@janemendenhall.com
for more information



State News *OMTA State Composition Celebration*

Karen Huntsberger, NCTM
State Composition Celebration Chair



Our annual Honored Composers Recital is coming in May. Everyone is welcome to attend and hear these wonderfully creative composers play their compositions. I hope to see you there!

Performing: Honored Composers
chosen at the District Level
Date: Saturday, May 20, 2017
Place: Hudson Hall, Willamette
University, Salem
Map: Building 37
(<http://tinyurl.com/lpqs4ng>)
Time: Recitals at 1:00, 2:15 and
4:00 (if needed)
Entry Fee: All levels are \$15
Entry Deadline: April 20, 2017



Booklets Available

A booklet of all compositions going to State will be prepared prior to the recital. Scores will only be accepted as PDFs this year. See the application form for detailed instructions about formatting.

The booklet will be available for pick-up at the recital for those that pre-order by email. The cost will be \$5 – \$7 per book. Please pay for pre-ordered copies at the state recital. There will be a few extra copies available for purchase. To pre-order the composition booklet, send an email indicating number of books ordered to kbh61489@comcast.net.

Detailed information and forms are available at: <http://tinyurl.com/jedm2xf>.

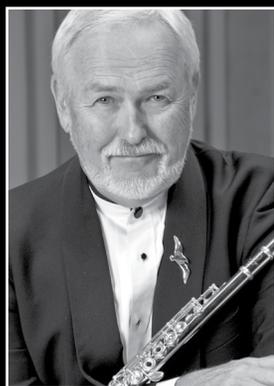
Questions? Contact Karen Huntsberger at kbh61489@comcast.net or 503-857-0378. 

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FLUTE PIANO



James Walker

APRIL 7, 2017, 7:30 P.M.

Pre-Concert Talk 6:45 p.m.

Hudson Concert Hall, Rogers Music Center

James Walker is a dynamic soloist, legendary orchestral and studio musician and celebrated jazz flutist. **Bryan Pezzone** is the consummate crossover pianist of his generation. He has excelled in classical, contemporary, jazz and experimental genres and is known for his versatility and virtuosity as a performing artist, improviser and composer.

Master Classes 1–4 p.m., April 7

Master classes are free and open to the public.



Bryan Pezzone

Tickets: boxofficetickets.com

Information: 503-370-6255 or music-info@willamette.edu

willamette.edu/go/goudy

Debra Sostrin

Oregon MusicLink State
Coordinator



Teachers: Apply Now for Summer Scholarships for your Students!

Many students dream of attending a summer music camp or participating in some other form of summer study, but they lack the financial means to make their dream a reality. Did you know that every year our Oregon MusicLink program offers scholarship opportunities for MusicLink students?

Attending a summer music camp can be a transformative experience for a child. Here is an excerpt from a “Thank You” letter we received from one of last year’s scholarship recipients:

... YMA (Young Musicians and Artists) was truly a life-changing experience that I will never forget. Without you guys, I never would have even had the slightest chance of going there. At YMA, I gained so much musical knowledge in all areas of music ... no joke. I didn't know 95 percent of the things I learned there. Also, I've made tons of new friends ... and I never would have met them if it weren't for you! Once more, for the millionth time, thank you, thank you, thank you, for making an impact on my life by allowing me to go to YMA.

—Andrew

Wouldn't you love to help your MusicLink student attend summer camp? Please think about applying for one or both scholarships:

- **Summer Music Camp Scholarship:** Any MusicLink student 5–18 years old, who has been in the ML program at least six months, may apply.
- **Continuing Education Scholarship:** High-school students between 14–18 years old, who have been in MusicLink at least nine months, may apply. This scholarship may be used to help pay for continuing education expenses in *any field of study!*

Scholarship application forms with more information are available on both the OMTA State and the Portland District websites, or may be requested from Debra Sostrin.

Completed forms must be sent, either by email or USPS, by **May 1** to:

Debra Sostrin
Oregon MusicLink State Coordinator
15094 NW Decatur Way
Portland, OR 97229
email: music@debrasostrin.com

Applications are reviewed and awards are determined by the 5-member Oregon MusicLink Board. Scholarship recipients will be notified on or before May 30. 🌿



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.

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Great. Now you are connected to hundreds of other amazing
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SUSAN CHAN

Associate Professor of Music and Piano Area Coordinator, PSU

Sunday, April 23, 2017, 2 pm • PSU Lincoln Recital Hall (Room 75)



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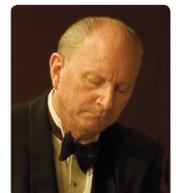


CECILE LICAD
FALL 2017

PAST PIANO SERIES PERFORMERS



THOMAS HECHT
FALL 2015



JEROME ROSE
SPRING 2016



PAUL ROBERTS
FALL 2016

State News *Membership*

Sherrene Walker

OMTA State Membership Chair



OMTA Membership Approaching 700

As of this date, OregonMTA has 632 Active members, 34 collegiate students, 7 high school students, 20 honorary members, for a total of 693 total members. Hopefully, we can cross the 700 mark by year's end! A year ago, we had 669 members, for an increase of 24 members over last year at this time.

Our efforts to address the benefits of MTNA, OMTA, local district membership, have encouraged prospective members to join OMTA. We have also had several new members join in January/February, taking advantage of half-off national dues for new members to try out the benefits of membership in our organization.

Although I don't have any new members to report for this month, I trust that you are all reaching out to the newer members in your local districts to welcome them. As our many spring activities begin, new members would love to have someone help them maneuver the local offerings for events that they and their students would enjoy. 

PORTLAND PIANO INTERNATIONAL UPCOMING EVENTS

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-THE GUARDIAN



PAAVALI
JUMPPANEN

MAY 13 & 14 / 4PM
LINCOLN HALL

A rare wedding of intellectual penetration, coloristic imagination and sheer virtuoso firepower.."

-BOSTON GLOBE



\$5 OMTA STUDENT TICKETS!

For the remaining performances of our 2016 / 2017 season, students/families of OMTA teachers can purchase tickets for just \$5 each by calling our office. Available by phone only.

503.228.1388

more info at
PORTLANDPIANO.ORG



District News *Central Oregon*

Helen Jones, NCTM



Inspired by Nature and Rhythm

NATURE IN MUSIC

Central Oregon District welcomed 39 students from 12 teachers to the Romantic/Impressionistic Festival recitals February 25 at Wille Hall on the Central Oregon Community College campus. Clinician was Michael Gesme, COCC music professor, who worked with each student for a few minutes following each performance. Students were asked to write a short sentence (printed in the program) about their piece that related to “nature.” Student comments ranged from “frogs hopping on a stream” to “gentle summer breeze” to “springtime in Russia.”

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Professor Michael Gesme, Festival Adjudicator (Back Row, L) and Happy Student Performers



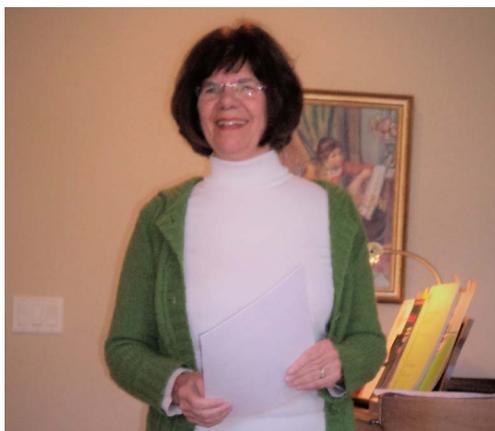


FOCUS ON RHYTHM

Our March program was given by fellow member Janet Smith on “The Shaping Power of Rhythm.” A graduate of Oberlin and Julliard, she performed short piano examples and encouraged audience participation.

SYLLABUS UP NEXT

Syllabus students along with their teachers are preparing for April 7, 8 and 9 local auditions at several members’ studios. Adjudicators will be Liz Willis and Heidi Evans.



Janet Smith’s Presentation on Rhythms

Any teacher who has dealt with lesson cancellations due to illness, school closures, bad weather or a million other reasons would have appreciated our February program given by OMTA State President Kathy Gault NCTM, a member of our district. Kathy demonstrated other ways to have a lesson that don’t require the student to actually be in your studio during their lesson time: Use your phone, have the student record their pieces ahead of the lesson, or use Skype or FaceTime to better interact with the student. Some teachers charge whether the student comes to a lesson or not, but this is a great way to help the student make progress when they can’t come.

As part of the 50th Anniversary season-long celebration of the Central Oregon Symphony, special guest artists have been asked back to perform with the symphony. In February pianist Kotaro Fukuma performed with the symphony and gave a master class for six young pianists, all students of OMTA members. 🌿



Grand Piano Scholarship Competition

Presented by The Piano Santa Foundation

The winner of the 2017 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 or contact us at info@pianosanta.org or (503) 245-6269 for more information.

Applications Due: May 12, 2017

Auditions : June 10, 2017



District News *Eugene*

Alexis Gibbons, NCTM



Looking Forward to Fred Karpoff's Visit

Our district has the privilege of hosting Fred Karpoff April 16 and 17 for two different events. On April 16 at Unity of the Valley he will be performing pieces by Debussy, Rachmaninoff, Barber, and Beethoven. General Admission is \$10. Then on the 17th, he will be giving a presentation on Entrada Piano Technique at First Congregational Church. Entrada is an online tool used to help students and teachers address technical issues with a systematic, whole-body approach to piano playing. We want to invite our members from other districts to these two inspiring and educational events.

On March 11 our district hosted the Spring District Recital. Thirty-nine students and seven teachers participated in this event. We also enjoyed a presentation by Jennifer Wright at our monthly meeting entitled, *Show'em Who's the Man: Proven Techniques to Eradicate Performance Anxiety Once and for All*. Great ideas were shared with us that can be applied to our teaching and performances.

As the days get longer and the weather gets warmer, our district hopes everyone enjoys the beauty of spring after a long, cold winter. 



Jennifer Wright Speaking About Performance Anxiety



District News *Tualatin Valley*

Sherry Poole Todd
President Tualatin Valley



Taking on the 21st Century Challenge



Mary Kogen led a great Saturday morning workshop at Classic Pianos on “Music In Your Hands” (L to R:) Deanna McCrae, Janet Olson, Erin McKee, Bev Mayhew, Gaye Rumsey-Riggs, Mary Kogen, Lisa Corcora (Photo by Andrew Poole Todd)



Information & Acknowledgements

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

Half single column ads (and articles about events which require an admission fee or tuition):
\$25.00

Larger ads at a proportional cost.
(Visit <https://oregonmta.org/publications/> for prices and ad specifications.)

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

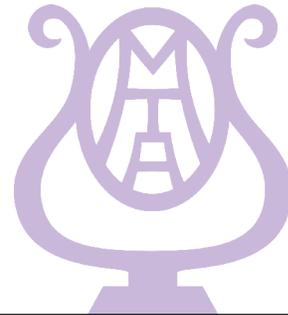
The link below connects you to your local District Associations, OMTA Board of Directors and Committee Chairs:

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



Information & Acknowledgements



Music News

Edited by:

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www.friendofmusic.com

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

www.tobiasweissdesign.com



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State Website

www.oregonmta.org

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

Upcoming Music News copy DEADLINES:

April 15, 2017

May 15, 2017

August 15, 2017

