

# OMTA Music News

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## Fun in the Sun

by Cindy Peterson-Peart, NCTM  
OMTA Conference Co-Chair

I'm stepping in for Selina this month as she enjoys her first few weeks at home with their new baby. Welcome, Celeste Jade Manson!

Brrrr ... this seems like the coldest and snowiest Oregon winter in a long time. Aren't we all daydreaming of relaxing in the sun on the beach? Or at least, since it is Oregon, putting on a sweatshirt and going for a nice walk on the beach? Well dream no more, we have the perfect opportunity for you!

Our 2017 Oregon State Conference will be held July 14–16 in Lincoln City at Chinook Winds Resort. We promise plenty of stimulating educational sessions, wonderful music, the chance to connect with old friends and meet new colleagues, and plenty of sunny days on the beach (fingers crossed).

To whet your appetite, here are a few of the things you can look forward to as you're shoveling the snow away:

### Inspiring Presenters

Our conference artist, Kiyoshi Tamagawa from Southwestern University in Texas, will give fascinating presentations on Baroque music, as well as Debussy. In addition, we'll have Margarita Denenburg from Heidelberg University in Ohio who is preparing sessions on the practical topics of technique, dealing with transfer students, and website design. Our final presenter is Julie Knerr,

coauthor of Piano Safari. She will give us an overview of the piano method and a presentation on piano repertoire from IMSLP.

### Wonderful Music

You can look forward to Kiyoshi Tamagawa's evening recital as well as student masterclasses. We'll also have performances of some exciting new works. Our 2017 composer of the year, Alexander Schwarzkopf, will present his work, which will be submitted for consideration in MTNA's Distinguished Composer of the Year competition. In addition, we'll have the premier performance of Kenji Bunch's work, commissioned by OMTA to commemorate our designation as MTNA's 2016 State Affiliate of the Year.

### Fun with Friends, Old and New

Lincoln City offers so much to do, so plan to bring your whole family! Be sure to check out these websites as you plan your trip:

<http://www.oregoncoast.org>  
<http://www.chinookwindscasino.com>

Our annual conference is the perfect place to connect with colleagues from across the state. We hope the incentives offered to new members and first-time conference attendees will result in lots of new faces. Watch your inbox and future issues of *Music News* for more information.

See you at the beach!

# President's Corner



Kathy Gault, NCTM  
OMTA President



*If you observe a really happy man, you will find him building a boat, writing a symphony, educating his child, growing double dahlias or looking for dinosaur eggs in the Gobi Desert. He will not be searching for happiness as if it were a collar button that rolled under the radiator, striving for it as a goal in itself. He will have become aware that he is happy in the course of living life, twenty-four crowded hours of each day.*

—W. Beran Wolfe  
("How to Be Happy Though Human" 1932)

*After ecstasy, the laundry.*

—Corita

All of us are busy people, whether we are combining our teaching with raising a family, involvement in church or other community activities, and/or holding a traditional 9 to 5 job 'on the side.' Yet somehow, our local, state, and national board members, officers and committee chairs also fit into their lives the tasks, large or small, that make up their official jobs in service to our organization.

I'd like to take this month's presidential space to send special valentines to just a few of our hardworking colleagues. As I write this message in mid-January, Oregonians on both sides of the Cascades are still digging out from historic winter snowstorms. Since mid-December, countless lessons have been cancelled, rescheduled, or held over the internet, while families, teachers and schools struggled with slippery roads, deep snow, transportation delays, and school closures. Those of us who traveled to Spokane for the MTNA Northwest Division meeting and performance competition over the MLK holiday weekend managed to sneak in our trip during a period of clear, though cold (-3 degrees on Saturday!) calm weather, for which we were very thankful.

Once there, we rolled up our sleeves and settled in to our various roles: organizing, registration, timekeeping, monitoring, and keeping the whole three-day event moving smoothly. Our reward was both

the opportunity to meet with and hear amazing, beautiful music-making by so many talented, hard-working students from all over the northwestern USA, and also our times meeting and relaxing with colleagues from these same states as well. We see our fellow state officers and board members several times each year, but the chance to share problems, challenges and also successes and great new ideas with our fellow presidents and division chair is a less frequent occurrence.

Division leaders don't always get a lot of recognition, and in fact I imagine many of our members may not be aware of this 'layer' of elected officers between State and National levels of MTNA. NW Division Director Chris Hahn (Montana) was unable to attend, so our own **Cindy Peterson-Peart** NCTM, Northwest Division Director-Elect, stepped in to chair the meeting of state presidents; she also served as Senior Coordinator for the competitions. **Susan Todd** NCTM served as Young Artist and Chamber Music Coordinator for the competitions, but is better known to most of us as an OMTA Past President, and currently as Assistant Treasurer for Restricted Funds and Chair of the Honors Committee. Cindy and Susan never stop working for us.

In turn, at the state level, we have dedicated members serving in board posi-

*(Continued on next page)*



# President's Corner *(Continued)*

tions, often unsung heroes working behind the scenes so that we have festivals and programs that benefit our studios and our students. I'd like to shine a spotlight on two such members this month. Both are stepping down from their positions this year after dedicated service over several years.

**Suzanne Savaria** NCTM, Syllabus Chair, has overseen updating the classical Syllabus Manual and the Adjudicator Training Manual, and facilitated the updating of both the OMTA Voice Syllabus and the Jazz Piano Syllabus. Suzanne is stepping down from her chairmanship position to pursue new opportunities in her university position. If you put your students in any of the OMTA Syllabus Evaluations, please thank Suzanne, and all of our hard-working Adjudicators.

Another low-profile but hard-working board member is **Sherrene Walker**, our outgoing Membership Chair. Sherrene is the primary warm, welcoming face for our new members. She helps new members get set up on Leggiero, answers questions from potential new members, and keeps track of issues at the national level that affect our members. She is in close contact with our OMTA office staff, to keep local and state membership changes updated. If you are a member—thank Sherrene!

Have you thanked your district and state board members for their work on your behalf lately? Perhaps you might consider sending a Valentine this month!

Kathy Gault NCTM  
OMTA President

## PORTLAND PIANO INTERNATIONAL UPCOMING EVENTS

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—WASHINGTON POST



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# State News *Oregon Boy's Composition a NW Division Winner*

**Dan Brugh**

*OMTA Composer  
of the Year Search*

*OMTA/MTNA Composition  
Competition*

*Northwest Division MTNA  
Composition Competitions*



Music Teachers National Association is pleased to announce the results of the **Northwest Division Composition Competition**. The winning compositions automatically advance to the national competition as national finalists.

## *Elementary*

Winner: Angelina Lawton  
Student of Kristina Lee, WA

Honorable Mention: Fiona Gehrke  
Student of Alla Artemyeva, AK

## *\*Junior\**

Winner: Matthew Kaminski  
Student of Daniel Brugh, OR

Honorable Mention: Sophia Chen  
Student of Sharon Van Valin, WA

## *Senior*

Winner:  
Lauren Vandervelden,  
Student of Philip Wharton, ID

Honorable Mention:  
Benjamin Cheung  
Student of Nino Merabishvili, WA

## *Young Artist*

Representative:  
Ian Guthrie  
Student of Martin Kennedy, WA

This year's Northwest Division judges were Emilie LeBel, John Paul, and Greg Steinke.

Daniel Brugh,  
NW Division Composition Coordinator  
[daniel.brugh@yahoo.com](mailto:daniel.brugh@yahoo.com)

Christopher Goldston,  
National Composition Coordinator  
[goldston@hotmail.com](mailto:goldston@hotmail.com)

## *Two Special Presentations*

On February 6 at 7:00 p.m. Matthew will be giving a free Cascadia Composer presentation in PSU's Lincoln Hall room 219. His presentation will center around the art of composing, as experienced through the eyes of a young composer.

Although this is not an OMTA event, Matthew is a two-time MTNA NW Division winner. Please help get the word out to teachers whose students could be inspired by Matthew.

Junior Winner Matthew, who is also a piano student of Ruth Sadilek, will be giving a special presentation of his winning composition at the OMTA State Composition Celebration. This event will take place Saturday, May 20, 2017, at Hudson Hall, Willamette University, Salem. 



Matthew Kaminski, Junior Winner NW Division Composition



# State News *Meet the 2016–2017 OMTA Composer of the Year*

**Dan Brugh**  
*OMTA Composer  
of the Year Search*

*OMTA/MTNA Composition  
Competition*

*Northwest Division MTNA  
Composition Competitions*



ALEXANDER SCHWARZKOPF was born in Colorado Springs, Colorado, to a family of creative artists. His mother was a professional actress and puppeteer, and his father was a prolific string player, painter and former architect during the late Bauhaus in Stuttgart, Germany.

Alexander wrote his first compositions at the age of 12 and has since premiered his works in the United States, Brazil and Germany, including at the Oregon Bach Festival Composer's Symposium; Makrokosmos Project Festival; Zeitgeist Mad Hatter's Composer-Pianist Series; Newton Free Library; Festival for Moving Arts (Commissioned by Bill Evans Dance); KiMo Theatre; Piano Perspectives Festival; Keller Hall at the University of New Mexico; Wheeler Hall at Casper College; Perspectives of Sound—Cascadia Composers (NACUSA); in Brazil at the Instituto de Artes (UFRGS); in Porto Alegre, Germany at the Klavier Festival Lindlar, Piano Forte Köln, and DeutscherTonKünstlerVerein "Musik Aktiv."

Alexander is the founder and artistic director of "Piano Perspectives @ AMoCA," a festival and masterclass held at the Anderson Museum of Contemporary Art in Roswell, New Mexico. This festival focuses on the intersection of music and visual art, which inspired such compositions as Schwarzkopf's recent work "T.P." (2016) for Trum-

pet, Piano and Visual Artist, premiered with Brian McWhorter and Hannes Bend.

Upcoming events featuring Schwarzkopf's compositions during the 2017 season will take place at the John Donald Robb Composers Symposium at the University of New Mexico; "Recycled Wheels" (2015), a collaboration between Schwarzkopf and puppeteer Lisa Sturz, at the Diana Wortham Theatre in Asheville, North Carolina; "Dialogues" (2008) and "Recycled Wheels" (2015), and a concert at the Klavier Festival Lindlar in Germany; "Perspectives" (2016), "Intersections" (2016) and "Recycled Wheels" (2015).

Alexander has participated in composition and improvisation masterclasses with Anthony Braxton, Martin Bresnick, Robert Kyr, Art Lande, Ellis Marsalis, John McDonald, Ricardo Zohn-Muldoon, Kurt Schwaen (Berlin), Gary Smart and William Wood. He holds the degree Doctor of Musical Arts in Piano Performance, with concentrations in Collaborative Piano and Piano Pedagogy from the University of Oregon. Alexander lives in Eugene, Oregon.

Alexander's CD, "Figures: 17 Choreographic Etudes for Piano" (2006) by Falko Steinbach is available on Centaur Records. For further information on pianist, composer and teacher Alexander Schwarzkopf, please visit his website at:

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



Alexander Schwarzkopf, OMTA 2016–17 Composer of the Year



# State News *MTNA Distinguished Composer of the Year*

**Dan Brugh**  
*OMTA Composer  
of the Year Search*

*OMTA/MTNA Composition  
Competition*

*Northwest Division MTNA  
Composition Competitions*



Michael Johanson received an Honorable Mention in the MTNA Distinguished Composer of the Year Award for his work *Three Moods for Viola and Piano*.

Johanson is Department Chair, Associate Professor of Music, and Director of Composition and Music Theory at Lewis and Clark College in Portland.



Michael Johanson, Composer

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*“The Oregon State University piano program gave me all the skills and experience I needed to launch my career as a professional accompanist and studio teacher.”*

– Bryson Skaar (B.A. in Piano Performance, 2015)

**Oregon State**  
UNIVERSITY

# State News *MTNA NW Division Performance Competition Results*

Cindy Peterson-Peart, NCTM



The MTNA Northwest Division Performance Competition was held January 14–16 at Eastern Washington University in Cheney. It was a weekend of fabulous music performed by exceptionally talented students from Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, and Alaska.

We're very proud of how the Oregon students represented our state. Congratulations to them and their wonderful teachers. And we're especially thrilled that Oregon students were chosen as winners of all three solo piano categories. Good luck to them as they continue on to the National competition in Baltimore this March.

Here are the results of the competition:

## *Junior Piano*

Winner:  
Michael Gu, OR  
Student of Rachelle McCabe

Alternate:  
Adrian King, WA  
Student of Peter Mack, NCTM

Honorable Mention:  
Tanner Jordan, MT  
Student of Dorothea Cromley

## *Senior Piano*

Winner:  
Nathan Kim, OR  
Student of Ron Fabbro, NCTM

Alternate:  
Abriana Church, ID  
Student of Irene Peery-Fox & David Tacher

Honorable Mention:  
Maya Suzuki, AK  
Student of Rumi Smith

Mya King, WA  
Student of Peter Mack, NCTM

## *Young Artist Piano*

Winner:  
HoNi Connie Mak, OR  
Student of Claire Wachter

Alternate:  
Douglas Rowan, ID  
Student of Stephen Thomas

Honorable Mention:  
Adam Sears, MT  
Student of Steven Hesla

## *Senior Piano Duet*

Winner:  
Mya King & Adrian King, WA  
Students of Peter Mack, NCTM

Alternate:  
Elissa Taylor & William Stone, MT  
Students of Katherine Skinner

## *Junior String*

Winner:  
Charlotte Marckx, WA  
Student of Simon James

Alternate:  
Ian Song, OR  
Student of Carol Sindell

Honorable Mention:  
Jessica Liu, WY  
Student of Sherry Sinift

## *Senior String*

Winner:  
Shintaro Taneda, WA  
Student of Simon James

Alternate:  
Lauren Vandervelden, ID  
Student of Sarn Oliver

Honorable Mention:  
Paul Lee, OR  
Student of Hyun-Jin Kim



## *Young Artist String*

Direct to National:

Josiah Baker, WY

Student of John Fadial

## *Junior Woodwind*

Winner:

Minsoo Kwon, WA

Student of Bonnie Blanchard

Alternate:

Julie Chen, OR

Student of Sandy Norman

## *Senior Woodwind*

Winner:

Zoe Sheill, WA

Student of Bonnie Blanchard

Alternate:

Marah Christenson, OR

Student of Sandy Norman

Honorable Mention:

Nicole Rieser, AK

Student of Crystal Hanson

## *Young Artist Woodwind*

Direct to National:

Mikayla Peterson, WY

Student of Scott Turpen

## *Chamber Music—Wind*

Winner:

Trio Tetan, ID

Students of Jon Klein

Alternate:

Puget Sound Saxophone Quartet, WA

Students of Fred Winkler

Honorable Mention:

Bridger Brass Quintet, MT

Students of Sarah Stoneback

## *Chamber Music—Strings*

Winner:

Missoula Piano Trio, MT

Students of Steven Hesla

Alternate:

Apollo Quartet, WA

Students of Carrie Michel

## *Young Artist Brass*

Winner:

Matthew Tatz, WA

Student of Christopher Dickey

Alternate:

Elizabeth Shill, ID

Student of Jon Klein 



# State News *OMTA District Projects Grant Programs*

Susan Todd, NCTM  
OMTA District Projects  
Grant Coordinator



## *Teacher Enrichment for All!*

Here's a "Sweetheart" of an idea—attend a grant workshop in your district, or grab some friends and hit the road to visit a neighboring district. If studying from home is more your style, check out the workshops on the OMTA site.

### UPCOMING PRESENTATIONS:

#### Friday, February 3

10:00–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.

#### Saturday, February 11

10:00–Noon

Blue Mountain District

Groth Recital Hall, Loso Hall (Room 126)  
Eastern Oregon University  
One University Avenue, La Grande

Deborah Cleaver: *Beyond Legato: The Expressive Elements of Baroque Performance Practice* Learn how elements of Baroque performance practice can inform musical expression.

#### Saturday, February 11

9:00–11:00 a.m.

Tualatin Valley District

Classic Pianos

3003 SE Milwaukie Ave, Portland

Leila Viss: *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.

#### Monday, February 13

10:00–Noon

Roseburg District

Studio of Faye Rounds

160 Live Oak Court, Roseburg

Phyllis Pieffer, NCTM: *Learning Styles: How Students Learn* This talk will concentrate on Right Brain/Left Brain, Temperaments and Modalities: Visual, Aural, and Kinesthetic (VAK).

#### Monday, February 13

(Rescheduled from January 9)

10:30–Noon

Eugene District

First Congregational Church

1050 E 23rd, Eugene

Mary Hall Kogen: *Accessing Rhythm Through Movement* Movement initiates and supports our mental and creative processes. Come and learn how focusing and centering improves through movement and how mistakes as a learning tool become acceptable through movement.

#### Friday, March 3

10:00–Noon

Salem District

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

1770 Baxter Street, Salem

Judith Kennedy & Daniel Stephens:  
*Baroque Dance*

#### Friday & Saturday, March 10 & 11

Times TBA

Klamath Basin

First Presbyterian Church

601 Pine Street, Klamath Falls

Dr. Alexander Tutunov, NCTM:

*Master Classes*

➤ (Continued on next page)



## Friday, March 10

Tualatin Valley District

*All-day workshop/Registration required*

The grant is helping with a portion of the expenses, but attendees will need to pre-order a kit they will be taking home.

Contact Sherry Poole Todd for further details.

Tigard United Methodist Church

9845 SW Walnut Place, Tigard

Gaye Rumsey-Riggs: *Music in Your*

*Hands* Participants will learn about

these tools and create a take-home box full of these hands-on manipulatives to help children learn musical concepts.

## Monday, March 13

10:30–Noon

Eugene District

First Congregational Church

1050 E 23rd Street, Eugene

Jennifer Wright: *Show 'em Who's The Man*

Proven techniques that eradicate performance anxiety once and for all!

## Monday, March 13

10:00–Noon

Roseburg District

Studio of Marge Connet

2968 Ralinda Terrace, Roseburg 97471

Paul Safar: *Guiding your Piano Student in Composition* Ideas to inspire, encourage and support a student in their early attempts at composing.

## Saturday, March 18

11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

Mid-Columbia District

The Christian Science Church

701 Washington Street, The Dalles

Joseph Hoffman: *Training the Ear*

*and the Eye from the Start: The Hoffman Method*

Drawing on his Kodály training, Joseph Hoffman (M.M.) has developed an innovative method for teaching piano to young children.

## Saturday, March 18

10:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

Southern Oregon University

Music Department Choir Room

1250 Siskiyou Blvd., Ashland

Deborah Cleaver: *The Taubman Approach* Musicians utilizing the Taubman approach can improve technique, prevent fatigue and injury, and maximize their ability to express music.

## PRESENTATIONS ONLINE:

You can view the following presentations online at: <http://tinyurl.com/zxluqok>

*Tips for Preparing for Syllabus Exams*

Presenter: Heidi Evans, NCTM

Host: Salem District

*Music and the Brain: How We Hear and Understand Melody and Rhythm plus Succeeding with Sonatinas*

Presenter: Dr. Crystal Zimmerman

Host: Tualatin Valley District

*Baroque Dance*

Presenters: Judith Kennedy and Daniel Stephens

Host: Portland District

*Teaching the Special Learner: Wisdom and Strategies for the Independent Music Teacher*

Presenter: Emily Ross, MA, MT-BC

Host: Portland District

*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



# State News *2017 OMTA Piano Sonata & Sonatina Festival*

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Sandy Hull, NCTM

Co-Chair, OMTA Sonata & Sonatina Festival



## *2017 OMTA Piano Sonata & Sonatina Festival*

We are looking forward to another successful Festival here in Eugene at the University of Oregon School of Music and Dance. The 2017 OMTA Piano Sonata & Sonatina Festival is scheduled for Saturday, October 28, 2017 from 12:00–5:00 p.m. This festival is an annual event.

Students compete in 1 of 10 levels and perform a required piano Sonata or Sonatina movement for a judge in a private audition. All students receive written comments. Judges choose the top two students of each level to compete for first and second place in a public Honors Recital later that day. Levels coincide with OMTA Syllabus levels.

Many students look forward to the announcement of the new repertoire list so they can begin practicing the repertoire for their level. It is so nice to see the same faces coming back each year and watching the students mature in their piano playing.

**The 2017 repertoire list will be posted on the state web sight by the end of January**, along with updated information and details about next year's event. Please be watching for this updated information.

A huge thanks to Fern McArthur who has agreed to be the new Chair for the Sonatina Festival! 



# State News *MusicLink*

Debra Sostrin

Oregon MusicLink State  
Coordinator



## *MusicLink Teachers: Plan Ahead for Summertime Opportunities!*

In the midst of all this wintry weather, it's hard to imagine summertime activities, but it's not too early to start thinking about the opportunities that become available for your MusicLink students after school lets out in June.

Every year Oregon MusicLink offers scholarships for summertime study:

- If your student has been in the MusicLink program for at least six months, he or she may apply for a Summer Music Camp Scholarship.

- A Continuing Education Scholarship is available to high-school students who have been in MusicLink for at least nine months. The funds may be used to help them pay for continuing education expenses of *any nature and in any field of study*—not just music!

It's not yet time to send in applications, but you may want to start exploring the idea of summer study with your students and their parents.

Please feel free to address any questions to Debra Sostrin, Oregon MusicLink State Coordinator: [music@debrasostrin.com](mailto:music@debrasostrin.com)

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Jan Mittelstaedt, NCTM



How are you motivating your advanced students who have completed the OMTA syllabus program before their senior year? Are they practicing as much as they did when they were studying for syllabus evaluations? Are they excited about their music and learning new musicianship skills as well as repertoire? Do they feel the same sense of accomplishment as they did when they received certificates marking successful syllabus evaluations? Do they have an opportunity for someone other than their teacher to evaluate their progress? Are they still studying with you? If the answer to any of these questions is “no,” ESMAR is the program for you.

*ESMAR is a superb program, well-crafted ... I would highly recommend it to any qualified student ... my student ... was placed in second year theory [at Oberlin] because of her background. OMTA is fortunate to offer this advanced program to our gifted students.*  
(Barbara Musolf)

Curriculum requirements and other forms may be downloaded from the OMTA

state website. Look under “Programs for Students.” To help prepare students to sight read a chorale tune, use easy hymns in keys with no more than 3 flats or sharps. To prepare for the transposition requirement, use music at the level of *FOUR STAR* sight reading, book 4, by Scott McBride Smith.

For harmonizing from a lead line, use an easy book (maybe for recorder) that has chord symbols above the notes. *Fun-Way Tutor* for Recorder (John Brimhall) is excellent, but it is out of print. There are other books available for recorder. If they don't have chord symbols, you could add them yourself, as the ESMAR assessment requirement will include chord symbols. The history question is oral, so practice talking about a composer with your student.

If you are working on ESMAR requirements and plan on a 2017 or 2018 assessment, please contact Jan Mittelstaedt ASAP:

[janrm@frontier.com](mailto:janrm@frontier.com)

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**Sherrene Walker**

*OMTA State Membership Chair*



## *Keep Reaching Out in 2017*

Encouraging non-pianists to join MTNA/OMTA, or even consider becoming a member, is a challenge and can be an adventure. Although non-pianists may belong to another association, MTNA/OMTA can offer its own persuasive points.

- MTNA is the largest (21,000 members) and oldest (founded in 1876) national music teachers organization.
- MTNA offers a national composition competition.
- MTNA, through OMTA, offers state syllabus exams as well as performance opportunities.
- Non-pianist teachers would be delighted to know that Senior and Young Artist divisions of the MTNA competitions are open to strings, woodwinds, brass and voice.
- Non-pianist teachers would be excited by available discounts such as Office Depot.
- Monthly webinars are of interest to all musician teachers.
- Other remarkable selling points for MTNA membership are credit card processing, debt collection services, business-related legal documents, guides for zoning issues and the like.
- MTNA gives financial assistance to teachers and students through the Foundation Fund.
- MTNA's certification program is unique as an incentive for any musician teacher of any instrument to attain a nationally recognized teaching certificate.

All of these features will never replace the simple personal contact of MTNA/OMTA members, speaking with our teacher musician friends and colleagues. Try inviting your colleagues to a local association meeting. Now is the time to introduce prospective members to MTNA with a trial membership! Any first-time active member can join between January 1 and June 30, 2017, and receive half off national dues. Spring activities, especially student performances, as well as MTNA's Office Depot discount program, are sure to be of interest.

Please join OMTA in welcoming the following new members:

### **Linn-Benton**

**Sandra Reitmeier-Coolen**

Piano, Music Education, Elementary Music

### **Portland**

**Eunice Burla**

Piano

**John Goforth**

Piano, Guitar, Composition

### **Tualatin Valley**

**Erin McKee**

Piano

**Karl Schultz**

Piano, Composition

Have a great, musical 2017! 



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

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Angela Kelly  
Marketing



*Teachers!* Are you connected on Facebook?  
Please locate OMTA on Facebook as  
Oregon Music Teachers Association.  
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music teachers all around Oregon who appreciate sharing ideas,  
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*It’s s-o-o-o . . . 21st century!*



# District News *Central Oregon*

Helen Jones, NCTM



## *Special Clinics and Master Classes*

SNOW seems to be the word of the winter season. During the last few weeks Bend and Central Oregon have had the most snow-fall in over 20 years. Roofs have collapsed, schools have been closed, and music lessons canceled. Students/parents have been unable to navigate the snowy roads. Because of this the school year has been extended five days in June.



Winter Snow in Bend!

In January, Central Oregon District members enjoyed a wonderful program on Romantic and Impressionistic music given by Michael Gesme, COCC music professor and conductor of the Central Oregon Symphony. He asked for a lot of audience participation and our members were happy to comply. Michael will be the clinician for our Romantic/Impressionistic Festival recitals at COCC February 25. Our students love to participate in his clinics.

Kotaro Fukuma, appearing as piano soloist with the Central Oregon Symphony in February, will conduct a Master Class while he is in Bend. This is a wonderful opportunity for some of our students to be in a Master Class with a well-known concert pianist.

Speaking of the Central Oregon Symphony (COS), this 2016–17 season marks the 50th Anniversary of the symphony. They need your help. The symphony is trying to contact former musicians who have played with COS anytime in the last 50 years.

If you know of someone who played with the symphony in the last 50 years, please have them contact the Symphony at [info@cosymphony.com](mailto:info@cosymphony.com) with their contact information. Past and present symphony musicians will be special guests, to be honored at a May 21 Gala in Bend.

Central Oregon District members now have business cards to hand to prospective members or students. The cards include our website address, general information about our monthly meetings and programs, and phone numbers for more information. 



Special Guest,  
Michael Gesme



Central Oregon Members chatting with Michael Gesme



# District News *Eugene*

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Alexis Gibbons, NCTM



## *The Woes of Winter*

We are in the thick of winter and feeling its effects. The new year got off to a rough start, as we had snow and ice that kept our district students away from school. Because of this weather, we were unable to hold our first meeting of the year. Mary Kogen was scheduled to present “Learning Through Rhythm and Movement” on January 9. Instead, we all stayed home, drank hot chocolate, and waited for the snow and ice to thaw.

Her presentation has been rescheduled for February 13 at 10:30 am. We are so thankful that we were able to reschedule her presentation, as I am sure our members will learn a lot from her. We invite you all to join us for our presentation, which will be held at the First Congregational Church in Eugene. Here’s to keeping our fingers crossed that we will not have more winter weather that keeps us from teaching students and attending future presentations! 



# District News *Tualatin Valley*

Sherry Poole Todd  
President Tualatin Valley



## *Leila Viss Returns to Portland!*

Come join us for two exciting workshops with Leila Viss, teacher, arranger, presenter extraordinaire! Leila headlined our State Conference back in July and is one of the very top presenters nationwide. Tualatin Valley had her booked over a year and half ago before the summer workshops were advertised! So we've been waiting a long time for her dynamic, fun, on and off the bench approach to music teaching. She is the author of *The iPad Piano Studio* and is on the cutting edge for all apps helpful to today's music teacher.

Leila is also a gifted church musician, offering webinars and thoughtful hymn arrangements for piano and other instruments. She has many hands-on ideas that are not iPad related, too, and is an inspiration! Just what we need after weeks of snow and cabin fever.

## *Teaching the Mobile Generation*

Friday, February 10, 10:00-ish after meet and greet time, at our regular meeting spot:  
Tigard United Methodist Church  
9045 Walnut Place  
Tigard, OR 97223



If Friday is not convenient for you (or even if it is) Leila will present a second session Saturday, February 11 at Classic Pianos starting at 9:00 a.m.

## *Nurturing Potential into Passion*

Made possible through a grant from the OMTA Nellie Tholen fund in collaboration with Tualatin Valley. Thank you, Susan Todd!

Classic Pianos  
3003 SE Milwaukie Avenue  
Portland, OR 97202

Both opportunities are free and open to the public! Come join us for two fabulous workshops! 



Leila Viss





## 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)

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

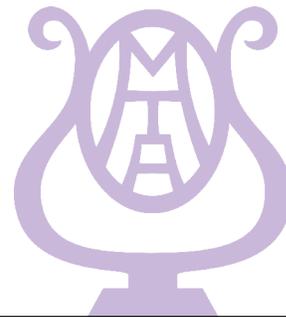
The link below connects you to your local District Associations, OMTA Board of Directors and Committee Chairs:

[www.oregonmta.org/contact/](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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## 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 *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:

*February 15, 2017*

*March 15, 2017*

*April 15, 2017*

