

# OMTA Music News

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## 2018 OMTA & WSMTA Joint Conference

June 20–23, 2018

Heathman Lodge, Vancouver, WA

by *Cindy Peterson-Peart, NCTM (OR)*

*Selina Manson (OR) & Jani Peterson, NCTM (WA)*

2018 CONFERENCE CHAIRS

Happy New Year!!

Do your New Year's resolutions include combining professional growth with a fun and relaxing vacation? If so, plan to join us in June and discover what Vancouver has to offer. By attending the annual state conferences, we have the wonderful opportunity to visit places that we might not normally take the time

to see. Even if Vancouver is near you, perhaps you haven't seen all it has to offer. With historical roots, top notch restaurants, waterfront shopping and walking, a large Farmers Market, and scenic back roads, Vancouver is an exciting place to explore.

*(Continued on next page)*



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## 2018 OMTA & WSMTA Joint Conference (Continued)



Conference planning is coming along and we'll have more specifics soon. Consider making the conference a priority by building it into your schedule as well as your financial planning. Thanks to the generous support of the OCF Nellie Tholen

Fund, conference registration will remain at \$135 and we've secured a special rate of \$144 per night at the beautiful Heathman Lodge. We look forward to welcoming you to Vancouver, USA!! 



# President's Corner



Kathy Gault, OMTA President



*Whether you and I and a few others will renew the world someday  
remains to be seen. But within ourselves  
we must renew it each day.*

—HERMANN HESSE

The beginning of a new calendar year often brings resolutions, from vaguely positive intentions all the way up to a clear plan of action for improvement and change. Although most of us think of fall as the beginning of a new teaching year, there is something refreshing about being done with the back-to-school craziness, fall sports, and school activities. There's the multitude of holidays in the final two months, followed by a cozy winter break. Don't you have an inner sense of rubbing your hands together, in anticipation of a couple of solid winter months of teaching, before the spring craziness sets in?

Recently I spent time visiting with the wife (widow) of my college piano teacher/mentor, whom I hadn't seen in probably 15 years. In my student days, I knew her mainly as his wife and musical partner, and I didn't really get to know her personally until many years later, after his death. She is a wonderful musician herself, an amazing singer with a pure, gorgeous soprano voice, and also beautiful inside and out. She is kind, smart, creative, well-organized, and as dedicated as he was to furthering student learning and success. Now in her 80's, she still teaches a few students, travels frequently to visit family and see new places, does

yoga and takes long walks every day. She has always been a role model to me, personally and professionally.

She asked what I was doing nowadays, and I mentioned that in addition to teaching, I was President of OMTA. She nodded, gave me an approving look, mentioning that she remembered her husband being president of MTAC (California) and then said, "He would be proud of you."

Naturally I was honored that she would think and say that. Would he really have been proud? I hope so! But it reminded me that it really is up to each of us, individually, to look beyond the everyday work we do with students, and commit time to our profession and our colleagues. And how important it is to give back.

Most of us do not work in the corporate world. We do not have peer reviews with a HR representative. Most of us set our own hours, plan our own curricula, and do our work free of government regulation or oversight. We undertake further education and training on our own initiative. We pursue professional growth by choice and according to our own timetable.

It takes dedication to keep growing, and a willingness to challenge what we know and do. I am dedicating myself this



year to more regular daily practice. My dear friend Geneva Wright recently celebrated her 80th birthday by giving a solo piano recital. She is another role model! I am also looking forward to visiting a few more OMTA Districts, to share with and learn from members, and to see the challenges and joys of our profession from a different angle. It is one of the perks of being President! But I will confess that as an introvert, it is also a bit of a challenge to step outside my circle of friends and walk into a room full of mostly strangers, and stand as representative of OMTA's nearly 650 members and our amazing national organization.

I hope that some of you also have plans this year for renewal and professional growth. What do you imagine your own teachers would say about your work and standards? Surely, they are proud—but will you consider upping the ante and taking a risk? Perhaps attending a District or interest group meeting or program ... presenting a program in your District ... coming to our Washington/Oregon joint conference in June ... taking a small (or large!) job at the District level ... or taking first steps in becoming Nationally Certified?

I wish you all a creative, challenging, active, and satisfying musical year.

Kathy

Kathy Gault, NCTM  
OMTA President



**SUNWOOK KIM**  
**JAN 13 & 14 / 4PM**  
LINCOLN HALL @ PSU



**LUKÁŠ VONDRÁČEK**  
**FEB 10 & 11 / 4PM**  
LINCOLN HALL @ PSU

**\$5 OMTA STUDENT TICKETS!**  
Students/families of OMTA teachers can purchase tickets for just \$5 each by calling our office at **503.228.1388**. OMTA Teachers may purchase tickets for \$20 each by using the “OMTA” code at **portlandpiano.org**

**more info at**  
**PORTLANDPIANO.ORG**



Jan Mittelstaedt  
ESMAR Program Coordinator



## *Looking Back at ESMAR*

It was 2008, and the OMTA adjudicators were meeting. It's hard to remember the details, but someone suggested that we might look into a program for students who finished the syllabus program early and needed another goal. Four of us: Grace Chen, Barbara Roberts, Patricia Scordato, and I, volunteered to form a committee. For two years, we met and discussed what we wanted to have included in the requirements. Dr. Jill Timmons came to one of our meetings and gave us her valuable perspective. We started with a studio "level 11" that I had used with my students and ended up with a far superior plan.

In 2010, ESMAR became a pilot program of OMTA. Five students from four teachers took part and were evaluated in 2011. Melissa Terrall, now a senior music major at PSU, was one of the first participants:

*Playing by ear is another skill that I developed through ESMAR. This has been very useful for gigs that I've played over the last few years. In addition to the evaluation, I booked several concerts at*

*care facilities and helped organize a final concert alongside the other participants. This was valuable experience in the behind-the-scenes of performing. Working with Dr. Timmons was a wonderful benefit of the program—I went on to study with her for several years before starting my degree. My piano duo continues to be coached by Dr. Timmons.*

Later Melissa was part of a committee formed to update ESMAR. She found a chord progression on the WEB that we used to replace our original one. Her progression still includes a German Sixth chord, but the chord is used for color rather than a tool to allow the pianist to smoothly modulate up a half step. The second progression also contains a secondary dominant.

This year eight students of seven teachers are working on ESMAR. The assessments will be on **Friday, April 27** and **Saturday, April 28, 2018**, at Classic Pianos. If you have a student who is interested, please contact me before the end of January. As of this writing, there are still spots left for an assessment on Friday with Dr. Timmons. 

## 4. CHORD PROGRESSION: MAJOR KEYS ONLY

Play in any inversion



I   V7/IV   IV   ii   I<sub>6</sub>   G<sub>6</sub>   I<sub>6/4</sub>   V<sub>7</sub>   I



Heidi Evans, MST, NCTM  
OMTA Syllabus Chairman



## *New Year's Resolutions—Syllabus Style*

In the grand tradition of making many and keeping few, I give you some ideas from my own teaching to make this the best Syllabus year yet in my studio.

1. Begin progressions early. Like, right now! Somehow, these always end up getting left until too late, and they have the most potential for improvisation/arranging/composition.
2. Check metronome markings. Not my favorite machine, but a useful one all the same. Inspire students to chart their own progress in scales and arpeggios. And of course, music always sounds better with a steady heartbeat!
3. Read the Syllabus introduction. If I do this the first week in January, the material will be fresh in my mind for the spring season.
4. Play ear training games with my students—these only take fractions of a minute, yet are so easy to leave out of the lesson.
5. Teach new pieces, expanding my teaching repertoire to a composer I haven't yet tried.
6. And finally, express gratitude. Nearly everyone who is involved in the Syllabus program is a volunteer, giving of their time, energy, and expertise to make this program happen for all our students. I'll start by thanking all of you teachers who prepare and enter students every season. It's a lot of work and dedication on your part, and the program exists because of you.

—*Thank you!*



# State News *Membership*

Sherrene Walker  
*Membership Chair*



I trust you all are having a wonderful Christmas season with your families, as well as a very musical celebration of the season with your students!

New members since last month are:

## Portland

Jonathan Roberts  
Jazz, Piano, Trumpet

## Tualatin Valley

Adam Young  
Piano, Strings, Guitar, Choral  
Collegiate Member



# Make Music Live!



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### Degree Programs

BA in Music  
BM in Performance  
BM in Composition  
BM in Contemporary Improvisation  
Minor in Music  
Minor in Arts, Technology & Multimedia

**Final audition for students entering next fall:**

January 27, 2018

[willamette.edu/go/musicauditions](http://willamette.edu/go/musicauditions)



# State News *OMTA District Projects Grant Programs*

Susan Todd, NCTM  
*OMTA District Projects  
Grant Coordinator*



DID YOU KNOW you can see several grant programs in your pajamas? Read the last paragraph for details!

## UPCOMING GRANT PRESENTATIONS

### Friday, January 12

10:00 a.m.–Noon

Tualatin Valley District

Tigard United Methodist Church

9845 SW Walnut Pl., Portland, 97223

Dr. Jill Timmons, NCTM:

*Pedaling Through the Ages—Cracking the Code: Historical Guidelines and Strategies for Informed Performance*

Pedaling on the modern piano is not an exact science, but there are critical principles that can shape our informed performance.

### Friday, February 2

7:00–9:00 p.m.

Portland District

Big Mouth Society Studio

232 SE Oak St., #103, Portland, 97222

Dr. Alice Sheu:

*Experience - Experiment!:  
Harpsichord Workshop*

Participants will be encouraged to try out the harpsichord, guided by Dr. Sheu, and focusing on tone production. Please contact Debra Sostrin to reserve a spot, as space is limited.

### Friday & Saturday, February 23 & 24

Blue Mountain District

Studio of Liz Cooper

91 Oak Street, La Grande

Dr. Diane Baxter, NCTM

Friday 10:00 a.m. to Noon:

*Stepping into the Light:*

*Thoughts on Performance Anxiety*

Friday 1:00–3:00 p.m.

*The Body Always Wins or How to Prepare for Just About Anything*

Saturday 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

*Master Classes*

### Sunday, February 11

2:30–4:30 p.m.

Roseburg District

Studio of Carolee Harbour

1953 NW Lamont, Roseburg 97471

Dr. Jeanine Jacobson, NCTM:

*Effective and Efficient Practice*

Helping teachers learn how to prepare students for practice that assures the most learning in the least amount of time.

### Monday, February 12

10:00 a.m.–Noon

Rogue Valley District

Pioneer Village (Library)

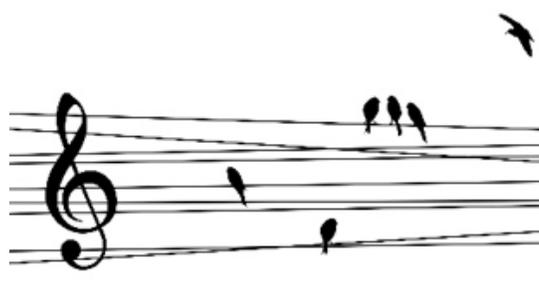
805 N 5th St., Jacksonville

Dr. Jeanine Jacobson, NCTM:

*"I Love this Piece": Selecting Good Repertoire*

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

*(Continued on next page)*



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

Monday, February 12

10:00 a.m.–Noon

Eugene District

First Congregational Church

1050 E 23rd, Eugene

Emily Ross:

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

We know that studying music is good for everyone. Some children come to us, however, without the attention span or executive functioning skills to excel in private music lessons without some special considerations.

Remember you can view one or more of the grant workshops online any time! Go to our website, [www.OregonMTA.org](http://www.OregonMTA.org) and click on **Teacher Resources/Teacher Enrichment Workshops**. There you'll find the link to our private channel. Use the same user name and log-in as for accessing the *Syllabus Manual* and *Repertoire Lists* or the *Membership Directory*. It's on the inside cover in your *OMTA Directory* or *Handbook*.

Happy Trails!



PERFORMANCE  
PEDAGOGY  
COLLABORATIVE  
PIANO

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Fostering a passion for piano



**Dr. Rachele McCabe**  
Director of Piano Studies  
Performance  
Piano Pedagogy  
[rmccabe@oregonstate.edu](mailto:rmccabe@oregonstate.edu)



**Dr. Matthew Goodrich**  
Performance  
Collaborative Piano  
Alexander Technique  
[goodricm@oregonstate.edu](mailto:goodricm@oregonstate.edu)



**Dr. David Servias**  
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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 is an equal opportunity, affirmative action institution committed to cultural diversity and compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Music at Oregon State University - 101 Benton Hall - Corvallis, Oregon 97331



## EXPERIENCE – EXPERIMENT!

### Harpichord Workshop

Portland District, in conjunction with its 2018 Baroque & Contemporary Festival, will be offering an exciting harpichord workshop, featuring harpichordist, Dr. Alice Sheu.

Students who have prepared piano pieces for the Festival will have the opportunity to try out their Baroque repertoire on a harpichord, under the guidance of Dr. Sheu. This will be a wonderful educational opportunity for students to discover the sounds and sensations of the instrument and to explore some of the technical and stylistic differences of playing Baroque repertoire on harpichord, rather than the modern piano.

As a prelude to the “Experience - Experiment” portion of the workshop, participants will be treated to a brief harpichord performance and a short overview of the history and mechanism of the instrument, given by Dr. Sheu.

And for dessert, Dr. Sheu, accompanied by Dr. Marjorie Janove, will demonstrate Baroque dance steps, using familiar dances from the Anna Magdalena Bach Notebook. Participants will be invited to try out a Menuet or Gavotte, adding a new dimension to Baroque pieces they have learned!

Start planning now! The Baroque & Contemporary Festival will take place on Saturday-Sunday, February 3–4 and 10–11, 2018.

*The Experience — Experiment Harpichord Workshop will be held on Friday, February 2, 2018.*

Space for this event will be limited. If you have a student who is likely to be interested in attending, please send an email ASAP to Debra Sostrin: [music@debrasostrin.com](mailto:music@debrasostrin.com)  
If there is enough demand, a second session may be scheduled.

## EXPERIENCE – EXPERIMENT

### Harpichord Workshop

Friday, February 2, 2018, 7:00–9:00 p.m.  
Big Mouth Society Studio (232 SE Oak St. #103, Portland OR 97222)

Many thanks to OMTA Portland District and the Nellie Tholen Grant Program for their sponsorship of this workshop.



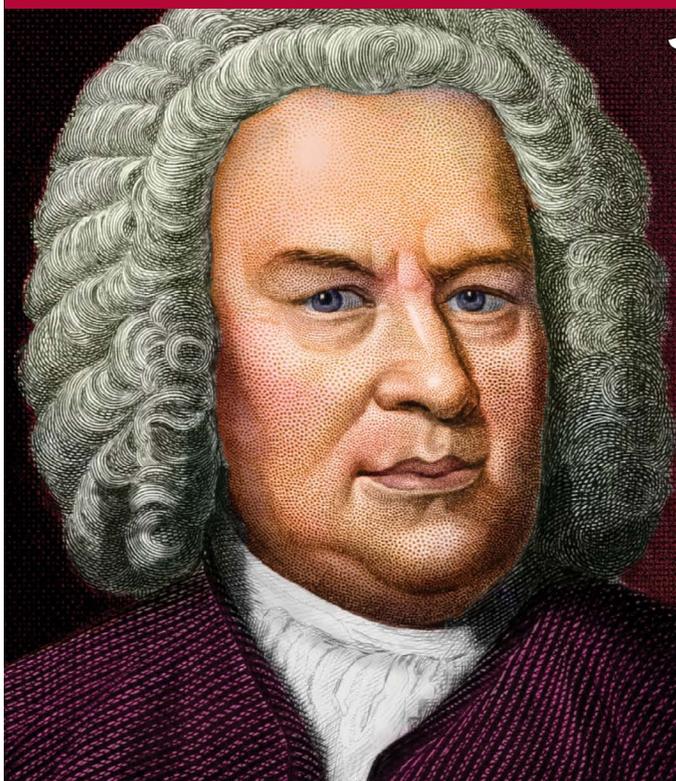
Grace Goudy Distinguished  
Artists Series 2017–18



**JEFFREY KAHANE**

# The Goldberg Variations

**JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH**



**FEB. 23, 2018**

**8 P.M.** Smith Auditorium  
Willamette University, Salem



[willamette.edu/go/goudy](http://willamette.edu/go/goudy)  
503-370-6255 | [music-info@willamette.edu](mailto:music-info@willamette.edu)

# District News *Central Oregon*

Helen Jones, NCTM



## *Getting Ready for the Holidays*

December is a very busy time for musicians! There are church services, various performances, and our own student recitals. Our members took time to meet in December at the home of Margaret Littlehales for our traditional festive potluck. This was pre-

ceded by a fun “Christmas Partner Songs Sing-along” led by Gina Rosbrook.

After the meeting, Larry Rauch sat down to play the piano and had an unexpected audience!

*Central Oregon District wishes you a  
Healthy & Prosperous 2018*



Central Oregon sing-along



Larry and friend



# District News *Eugene*

Alexis Gibbons, NCTM  
Fern McArthur, NCTM



## *Wrapping Up 2017 and Springing into 2018!*

The Eugene District ended the year 2017 with three different events. Our first event was the District Ensemble Festival. This event was held at the University of Oregon School of Music. We had thirty participating students from five teachers. Many of these students were selected to go on to the State Honors Recital.

We had our annual fundraiser at Barnes and Noble. Twenty-one teachers presented recitals with their students throughout the first weekend in December. These recitals were held in conjunction with a book fair which raised several hundred dollars to go toward our Soule Memorial Scholarship fund.

Our December gathering was a morning potluck with sharing of music and fellowship at member Susane Reis' Eugene Piano Academy. There was music sharing from members, as well as students. Many discussions were overheard about our upcoming events including member meetings and programs, the February Baroque Festival and more in store for 2018. We look forward to an exciting new year of music and teaching.

*The Eugene District wishes everyone a  
Happy New Year!*



Sophie Phillips Meadow



Amelie Phillips Meadow



Nick Rieser



Ensemble Festival



Genevieve Mason & Susane  
Reis Davis



Jane Young & Delores Tiktin



# District News *Salem*

Georgene Distad, Secretary  
*Salem District*



## *Music in the Capitol!*

Every December, Salem District students play and sing under the rotunda! What a great experience for all of them! Proud parents see their students enjoy the opportu-

nity to play their favorite Christmas music for the community. Pictured here are the students of Kazue Suzuki, Kim Despain, and Jill Foster. 🎵



# District News *Tualatin Valley*

**Laura Davis**

*President, Tualatin Valley District*



## *Special Winter Presentations*

Tualatin Valley District is excited to invite all members, friends, and guests to our upcoming winter presentations. Three music professors from around the Northwest will bring their special expertise on teaching and performing, and we hope all our members and friends will join us as we expand our knowledge and gain fresh inspiration! Programs are in the Sanctuary.

Tigard United Methodist Church  
9845 SW Walnut Ct.  
Tigard, OR 97223

- **Friday, January 12**  
**10:00 a.m. to Noon**  
Dr. Jill Timmons, Arts Mentor and Linfield College Professor Emerita presents “Pedaling Through the Ages”

- **Friday, January 26**  
**10:30 to 11:30 a.m.**  
Professional Development Class presents “Focus on Strings”  
Host: Dr. Anne Young  
For more information, please contact Ruth Sadilek: [rsrviolin@hotmail.com](mailto:rsrviolin@hotmail.com)

- **Friday, February 9**  
**10:00 a.m. to noon**  
Dr. Claire Wachter and Dr. Dean Kramer Associate Professors of Piano and Pedagogy, University of Oregon will present “The Virtual Pedagogue: Debussy”  
This is a recent addition to their groundbreaking online course. 🎹



Dr. Claire Wachter



Dr. Jill Timmons



# Information & Acknowledgements

## Submit Articles in *Music News*

Please send articles and accompanying graphics in TIFF, EPS, JPEG or PDF format to Sherry Poole Todd via e-mail: [sherrypooletodd@gmail.com](mailto:sherrypooletodd@gmail.com). MS Word files preferred.

## 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

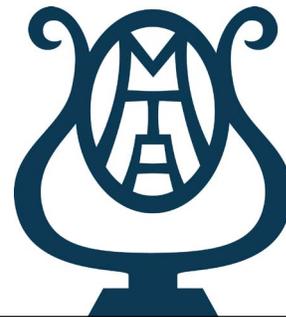
The link below connects you to your local District Associations, OMTA Board of Directors and Committee Chairs:

<https://oregonmta.org/about/leadership/>

## 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, 2018*

*March 15, 2018*

*April 15, 2018*

