



## IN THIS ISSUE

### State News

President's Corner	2
MTNA Foundation Fellow Nominee	3
Syllabus	6
Certification	7
Membership	8
OMTA District Projects Grant Programs	10

### District News

Central Oregon	13
Eugene	14
Portland	15
Tualatin Valley	16

## OMTA State Conference

August 22 to 24, 2019

by Sara Greenleaf  
OMTA State Conference Co-Chair

The month of March has been “all things Conference!” Contracts have been signed, menus planned, event schedules mocked-up, and presenter topics selected. I’m excited to announce the official theme of Conference will be, *The Essential Teacher: Returning to What We Know (But Sometimes Forget)*. Topics will be presented by Joy Morin, Helen Marlais, and Dennis Alexander. Presentation topics will include pre-reading aural comprehension, self-directed and intelligent practicing, and a focus on sound, physical gesture, and imagination.

I’m also thrilled to announce that Dr. Oksana Ezhokina (head of keyboard studies at PLU) will be giving a recital and master class along with violinist Marie Wang of the Avalon String Quartet. Ms. Wang received violin performance degrees from McGill University, and Northern Illinois University, as well as an Artist Diploma in Quartet Studies from Juilliard where she served as a teaching assistant to the Juilliard Quartet as a part of the Lisa Arnold Graduate Quartet



Marie Wang

Residency. She has been an Artist in Residence at Indiana University South Bend, and is currently Associate Professor of Violin at Northern Illinois University. Stay tuned for more information in *Music News* about our exciting 2019 State Conference scheduled for August 22–24 at University of Oregon’s gorgeous Erb Memorial Union!



# President's Corner



Selina Manson  
OMTA President



As I write this I am busy packing for the MTNA National Conference in Spokane, Washington. It will be a fabulous five days of learning, sharing, networking, and celebrating with colleagues.

Perhaps attending the National Conference did not fit with your teaching schedule, or budget, or family plans. With that in mind, I would encourage you to plan on attending our State Conference this summer in Eugene. It will be an amazing three days (August 22–24) at the University of Oregon. Our programs will take place in the beautiful Erb Memorial Union and we will be staying right on campus in the newly renovated dorms (much nicer than my college days!).

Our Conference Committee has recruited some amazing presenters. Dennis Alexander and Helen Marlais are a couple of names on the list. For more information on our presenters click here: <https://tinyurl.com/kohxx2w>. We look forward to having great vendors again this year, along with our Foundation raffles. We will also celebrate with our colleagues as they receive awards at the State Conference Gala.

Mark your calendars now, and start yourself a little conference fund. Early bird registration will be just around the corner!

Sincerely,

Selina Manson  
OMTA President

S U N R I V E R M U S I C F E S T I V A L



# PIANO SHOWCASE

FROM BACH TO BOOGIE TO JAZZ!

**APRIL 12-13, 2019 • TOWER THEATRE, BEND**

- TWO EXCEPTIONAL CONCERT PROGRAMS •
- MASTERCLASSES • WORKSHOPS

over two days celebrating the versatility and virtuosity of piano featuring:

Acclaimed Cliburn medalist **SEAN CHEN** • Boogie-woogie blues master **ARTHUR MIGLIAZZA** • Sophisticated and inventive jazz performer **DAN TEPFER**

**FRIDAY CONCERT** featuring all three artists

**WORKSHOPS & MASTERCLASSES** Saturday throughout the day

**SATURDAY CONCERT** highlighting collaborations with all three artists

See website for full schedule and price options

**DETAILS AND TICKETS: 541-593-1084 • WWW.SUNRIVERMUSIC.ORG**

## State News *MTNA Foundation Fellow Nominee*

Susan Todd, NCTM  
*OMTA Honors Committee Chair*



Your OMTA Executive Board enthusiastically voted to name Cindy Peterson-Peart, NCTM, as OMTA's 2020 MTNA Foundation Fellow Nominee. Cindy's picture may be familiar to many of our members, as she has served as an OMTA Syllabus Adjudicator since 2013, toured each district in our state during her term as OMTA President in 2014–2016, and has coordinated three OMTA State Conferences. Our 2018 State Conference was the largest undertaking yet as we partnered with Washington State MTA. Cindy, along with then President-Elect Selina Manson and Jani Peterson from Washington, put on a top-notch State Conference.

One of Cindy's main accomplishments as OMTA President was to promote a successful campaign to do away with Provisional Membership. This now allows all music teachers to have the benefit of active membership in OMTA, regardless of having a college degree in their past musical studies. This change has opened the door for many other teachers to both learn from OMTA, and to share their fine talents and ideas with the organization.

Cindy, with the help of Dr. Jill Timmons and Chris Engbretson, secured a \$250,000 five-year grant. This grant accessed funds donated by Nellie Tholen and administered by the Oregon Community Foundation for the purpose of promoting continuing education for piano teachers throughout the state. These funds have helped bring in world-class musicians and teachers for our annual conferences. The grant team also came up with the idea of sending presenters to all our districts, all expenses paid. Now in its fifth year, the District Projects Grant Program has inspired and aided teachers, students, and communities across the state. Our Klamath Basin District was on the verge of dissolution when the grant programs gave them the revitalized energy to promote their local MTA, and they have now tripled their membership.



Cindy Peterson-Peart, NCTM—OMTA's 2020 MTNA Foundation Fellow Nominee.

As State President, Cindy helped run the MTNA Student Performance Competitions at state and division levels and she continues to do so. She attended the Summit for MTNA Leadership and meetings of the State Presidents (S-PAC). She was elected Chair of the S-PAC during that time. She represented Oregon very well at the national level, bringing our concerns to MTNA's attention. In 2016 she was elected to serve as the MTNA Northwest Division Director, and she now sits on the National Board for the 2018–20 term.

Cindy takes the responsibilities of each office seriously and works countless hours behind the scenes to make sure events and budgets come out perfectly. She continued to work as Portland District Treasurer (taking it through all sorts of IRS and FTC hoops) while serving as chair or co-chair for OMTA State Conferences, serving as State President and NW Division Director, serving as a Syllabus Adjudicator and running

*(Continued on next page)*





Cindy Peterson-Peart, NCTM and Susan Todd, NCTM

a happy and thriving studio. The Energizer Bunny has nothing on Cindy!

Her tireless work in OMTA is an example of the way Cindy encourages and helps her colleagues. She also makes herself available to meet over coffee to discuss teaching tips and share her successes and struggles. Cindy has reached out to teachers in her area through Next Door and other social media platforms to encourage them and to tell them about the benefits of being

involved in OMTA. She is also very active in her local OFMC group, having chaired its Junior Festival event for many years. The students, families and teachers all look forward to the smoothly-run, fun festival week she organizes.

Please join your OMTA Board in supporting Cindy's nomination as our 2020 Foundation Fellow. The MTNA Foundation provides scholarships for students and teachers throughout our organization, with over ninety-five percent of each donated dollar awarded in scholarship grants. The fundraising goal for each fellow is \$1,500. Funds from our OMTA Conference Raffle and donations from individual districts are already planned, but individuals are also welcome to contribute. Donations in Cindy's name are to be sent to MTNA. Complete information about the Foundation, including the donation form, can be found at [www.MTNAfoundation.org](http://www.MTNAfoundation.org). If you choose to include a Foundation Donation with your dues renewal, you may do that with your online renewal, again, indicating Cindy's name.

If the fundraising goal is met, Cindy will be honored at the 2020 MTNA Conference in Chicago, Illinois, March 21–25. Do mark your calendars, and plan to join us celebrating Cindy Peterson-Peart as OMTA's 2020 Foundation Fellow in Chicago next March!

Happy Trails,  
Susan Todd, NCTM



Willamette University  
Grace Goudy Distinguished Artists Series ~ 2018-19 Season presents

**Billy Childs and the Ying Quartet**

**Friday, April 5, 7:30 p.m.**

Hudson Concert Hall, Mary Stuart Rogers Music Center



The Grace Goudy Distinguished Artists Series at Willamette University will present the collaboration of two distinct musical forces.

Billy Childs, has emerged as one of the foremost American composers of his era, perhaps the most distinctly American composer since Aaron Copland – for like Copland, he has successfully married the musical products of his heritage with the Western neoclassical traditions of the twentieth century in a powerful symbiosis of style, range, and dynamism. In addition to his numerous Grammy awards the L.A Times has written "as a pianist, he possesses the improvisatory skills and powerful sense of swing one associates with world-class artists...Childs is an inventive composer and arranger whose effort in those areas consistently expand the dimensions of the jazz genre—and beyond."

The Ying quartet, about whom the Washington post has written, "Precarious balance where sheer agony and triumphant beauty intersect", occupies a position of unique prominence in the classical music world, combining brilliantly communicative performances with a fearlessly imaginative view of chamber music in today's world.

Together in the performance of Childs' composition, "The River, The Bird, and the Storm", an extraordinary fusion of creative energy is unleashed. Of the work Childs writes, "A recurring theme in much of my music has been a love of nature, and this is certainly the case with "The River, the Bird, and the Storm." I wanted to compose a three movement suite with kind of an open-ended program—the titles of each movement are mere suggestions as to a storyline for the piece. In this piece, more than others that I have composed, I stayed away from a formal structure and let the music reveal to me where it wanted to go.

In addition to the Childs composition the Ying will perform landmark quartets of both Haydn and Beethoven, the "op 20 no 6" and "op 59 no 2" respectively. Please join us for what should be a fabulous evening of music-making, and a Spring celebration of new directions and beginnings,

Both Billy Childs and the Ying Quartet will give master-classes Saturday April 6th, 11:00 a.m. in Hudson Hall, and Rogers Rehearsal Hall. These are free and open to the public.

[billychilds.com](http://billychilds.com)      [ying4.com](http://ying4.com)      [willamette.edu/go/goudyartistseries](http://willamette.edu/go/goudyartistseries)

**CONCERT TICKETS — general admission seating. Purchase ticket at [Willamette.edu/go/musicstore](http://Willamette.edu/go/musicstore)**

Single Tickets \$23   Seniors \$10;   Students w/ID \$5;   Oregon Trail Card \$5 at the door only

For questions, contact the Willamette University Music Department, 503-370-6255.

# State News *Syllabus*

Heidi Evans, NCTM  
*State Syllabus Chair*



It's April and I hope it breezed in with a few good pranks for everyone! I gave myself a few moments of giggles thinking of all the great pranks I could pull involving Syllabus, but I like you all too much to put them into print and do damage to your adrenaline levels. I've noticed that stressed humans tend to lose their sense of humor. I hope you and your students are finding lots of little things to enjoy and laugh about along the road called "Great Preparations."

I have some exciting news! "Launch to Syllabus and Beyond" coloring sheets for Levels 1–4, is updated and available for \$15 from Renee Masanque at [reneespianokids@msn.com](mailto:reneespianokids@msn.com). My own students have enjoyed coloring these sheets in the past, and it's a beautiful visual reminder of the student's accomplishments.

Reminders (change monthly for relevance):

- Treat chairperson and adjudicators with respect and professionalism.
- Host Studios: please read host studio instructions the day you get your packet in the mail and follow through promptly.
- Teachers are **REQUIRED** to be present for all Syllabus exams.
- Exam Policy: no makeups/rescheduling of exams. The student can always participate in the next season, or the teacher can join (pay dues and volunteer) another district with later dates.
- Level X Awards: the form is available on the OMTA website at <https://tinyurl.com/yc75zsbz>. The Level X State Recital registration deadline is May 24.

Clarification on Syllabus *Evaluations vs. Demonstrations*, by Barbara Berg, NCTM:

- If a *Teacher* changes a student from a complete Evaluation, the student can pass with a Successful Demonstration.
- If an *Adjudicator* however, on the day of adjudication, must change a student from Evaluation, it's a No-Pass. This means the student will receive Participation only.
- Therefore, it's *up to the Teacher* to determine which option students are prepared to take: Evaluation or Demonstration.

For information about the following topics, please check out previous publications of OMTA's Music News at <https://oregonmta.org/publications/archive/>:

- Contemporary Repertoire, see November 2018
- Baroque and Classical Repertoire, see December 2018
- Romantic and Impressionist Repertoire, see January 2019
- Level X Information, see February 2019



# State News *Certification*

Rebekah Carter, NCTM  
*Certification Chair*



Spring has brought a flurry of activity to Oregon in the area of MTNA National Certification! Within the past month, two more OMTA members have submitted their applications and begun working on their Teacher Profile Projects. I'm excited to announce that we can congratulate Melody Morrison, NCTM, for becoming a Nationally Certified Teacher of Music this March 2019! Melody is on the OMTA State Board as Membership Chair and we are so pleased to be featuring her story in a future issue of *Music News*. For this month's publication, read on to be inspired by the experience of Dr. Elise Yun, NCTM, in her journey toward MTNA National Certification and join us in congratulating Dr. Yun for her professional achievement! Visit the MTNA Certification website to learn more about the benefits of certification and to get started on your application: <http://certification.mtna.org/>.

### *Dr. Elise Yun, NCTM*

MTNA has been an important part of my musical life ever since I was a kid growing up in Michigan and entering all those competitions! Since the beginning of my teaching career I have always been a member, but did not think about becoming Nationally Certified. Fast forward twenty years, after teaching and performing for five years in China, I recently returned to Portland and wanted to continue teaching. While in China, I really missed being part of a piano teachers organization. Last year, a fellow pianist friend of mine suggested that I apply to become Nationally Certified through my institution.

After so many years, I was inspired to become a Nationally Certified because it makes me feel more connected to a vibrant professional community and to be part of an organization that values excellence in teaching and continued growth through professional development. As a student growing



Dr. Elise Yun, NCTM

up in a small Midwestern town, I benefited a great deal from MTNA. Now as a teacher, I would like to be involved and contribute to this organization that continues to promote the highest quality of music teaching and performance within such a supportive and collaborative community.

When I completed the Certification process, I was a founding faculty member at the Soochow University School of Music in China. I served as coordinator of the piano department and taught piano, piano literature, and piano forum. What I loved most about that position was the excitement and energy of building a new school from the ground up in a foreign country, with a team from all over the world. Just as equally, I loved working with the students who were eager to learn and worked very hard.

In addition to teaching privately here in Lake Oswego, I am a Guest Professor at East China Normal University (ECNU) in Shanghai. As I write this, I am preparing for a series of masterclasses and concerts in April with a violinist and cellist at ECNU, in other Shanghai venues, and in South Korea. Collaborating with fellow colleagues wherever I am has always been a source of inspiration and joy for me. 🌿



# State News *Membership*

Melody Morrison  
*Membership Chair*



Melody

Let's give a warm welcome those who have recently joined OMTA!

## Central Oregon

Philip Miscovich  
General Music

## Portland

Diane Chaplin  
Cello

## Allison Wilkinson

Flute, Piano, Theory, Piano-Pedagogy

## Tualatin Valley

Auksuole Jackunaite  
Piano, Music Education, Theory



**SOLO** THE SOLO PIANO SERIES  
2018 / 2019 SEASON

**MASTERCLASS WITH ANGELA HEWITT**  
MAY 4, 2019 / 10AM  
FLANAGAN CHAPEL  
LEWIS & CLARK COLLEGE

Tickets to Angela Hewitt's performances are nearly SOLD OUT, so discounted student and teacher tickets will likely NOT be available for Friday, May 3 and Sunday, May 5.

You're invited to attend a **FREE masterclass** with Ms. Hewitt on Saturday, May 4 at 10am. Hosted by the Music Department at Lewis & Clark College, the event will be a great learning opportunity and includes an informal reception following the class.

Please join us!

**PORTLANDPIANO.ORG**



# *Piano Arts in Netarts*

Where Music Meets the Sea



*Concerts. Master Classes. Lectures. Guest Artists*

**September 5-8, 2019**

**The Netarts/Oceanside Firehouse, Oregon**



**Scott McBride Smith**

MTNA President  
& Keynote Speaker



**Jill Timmons**

Artistic Director,  
Performing Artist:  
J.S. Bach, Goldberg Variations



**Ludovica Mosca**

Baroque Dancer  
and Bach Scholar

Welcome to a weekend immersion for artist/educators looking to explore special topics pertaining to the piano, finding voice to their ideas & inquiry, & connecting with their professional tribe. Performances, master classes, lectures, somatic education, a conference salmon BBQ, & beach time! Join us in the Netarts, where music meets the sea!

***Registration deadline is May 1, 2019***  
***Limited enrollment.***

For registration, audition, housing,  
and fee information contact:  
Dr. Jill Timmons at:  
[jtimmons@linfield.edu](mailto:jtimmons@linfield.edu)

Jill Timmons  
Artistic Director

# State News *OMTA District Projects Grant Programs*

Susan Todd, NCTM  
*OMTA District Projects  
Grant Coordinator*



A huge thanks to Dr. Janet Pollack, of the Eugene District, for stepping up to write our application for a new District Projects Grant from the Nellie Tholen Fund. This fund is managed by the Oregon Community Foundation. We will keep you posted on the status of this grant! Meanwhile, get your pencil out and mark your calendars for these compelling grant programs!

### Friday, April 5

10:00 a.m.–Noon  
Lincoln County District  
Oregon Coast Community College  
South Beach Campus  
400 SE College Way, Newport

Dr. Thomas Otten, NCTM  
*Music of the Baroque, Classical,  
Romantic, and Contemporary Eras:  
Differences in Tone, Articulation,  
Pedal, Rubato*

We will examine pedal and articulation to shed light on the confusing musical choices we have when performing and teaching music from many different style periods.

### Saturday, April 6

10:00 a.m.–Noon  
Umatilla-Morrow District  
First Presbyterian Church  
201 SW Dorion, Pendleton  
Matt Katz

#### *Becoming the Accompanist*

Have you ever asked yourself, “Outside of teaching cadences and harmony, how can I teach my student to accompany?” Matt will present a practical approach to using current pop music and classics as a way to keep a student engaged who might be losing steam with studying piano repertoire and to get them to use music theory in an applied way to teach themselves a song quickly. This will be a master class style workshop with demonstrations and audience participation.

*(Continued on next page)*



Available for  
download at

store.cdbaby.com  
iTunes  
Amazon

for more information visit  
[garyruppert.com](http://garyruppert.com)



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

### **Monday, April 8**

10:00 a.m.–Noon  
Umpqua/South Coast District  
Studio of Faye Rounds  
160 Live Oak Court, Roseburg  
Mary Hall Kogen  
*The Art of Phrasing*

Learn to put excitement and meaning into every note while playing from your musical heart and soul.

### **Tuesday, April 9**

10:00 a.m.–Noon  
Linn-Benton District  
Dr. Bonnie Esbensen Residence  
2993 NW Acacia Place, Corvallis  
Dr. Johnandrew Slominski  
*Acquiring Aural Skills:  
Listening Deeply*

The composer and pianist Robert Schumann wrote in 1848, “You must get to the point that you can hear music from

the page ... a perfect musician should be able to picture a piece, at first hearing ... as though he had the score in front of him.” This workshop opens a conversation about teaching and learning through a nuanced aural curriculum.

### **Friday and Saturday, April 12–13**

Klamath Basin District  
First Presbyterian Church,  
601 Pine Street, Klamath Falls  
Dr. Alexander Tutunov, NCTM  
*Master Classes*

The master teacher will work with students and/or teachers in a master class or private lesson setting. The local district can determine the participants, schedule and repertoire. For more details, contact Terri Horn at [terrissuehorn@gmail.com](mailto:terrissuehorn@gmail.com).

*(Continued on next page)*



## **Grand Piano Scholarship Competition**

Presented by the Piano Santa Foundation

The winner of the 2019 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](http://www.pianosanta.org) or contact us at [info@pianosanta.org](mailto:info@pianosanta.org) or (503) 245-6269 for more information.

**Applications Due: May 17, 2019**

**Auditions: June 15, 2019**



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

## Friday, April 12

10:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m.  
Central Oregon District  
Studio of Jean Shrader  
11480 W Hwy 126, Redmond  
Dr. Matt Cooper  
*Ornamentation and  
Performance Practice*

The program will take an in depth look at the Sonatas of Domenico Scarlatti and piano pieces from the Viennese Classical era.

## Saturday and Sunday, April 13–14

Rogue Valley District  
**Saturday** 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Southern Oregon University  
Music Department  
**Sunday** 1:00 p.m. 3:00 p.m.  
Artistic Piano Gallery  
1390 Biddle Road, Suite 107, Medford  
Dr. Diane Baxter, NCTM

### Saturday:

*Pianists and the Brain* and  
*Stepping into the Light:  
Thoughts on Performance Anxiety*

### Sunday:

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

## Saturday, April 27

10:00 a.m.–Noon  
Blue Mountain District  
Eastern Oregon University, La Grande  
Loso Hall, Room 123, EOU Choir Room  
Dr. Jeanine Jacobson, NCTM  
*A Good Lesson is Not Reliant on How  
Much or Little the Student Has Practiced*

How to make a lesson a positive and effective learning experience when the student hasn't practiced.

## Friday, May 3

10:00 a.m.–Noon  
Lincoln County District  
Oregon Coast Community College  
South Beach Campus  
400 SE College Way, Newport  
Matt Katz  
*Becoming the Accompanist*

## Friday, May 10

10:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m.  
Central Oregon District  
Studio of Janet Smith  
60775 Breckenridge, Bend  
Mary Hall Kogen  
*Audiation and Learning*

Audiation is the ability to hear and understand music for which the sound is not physically present.

## Saturday, May 11

10:00 a.m.–Noon  
Klamath Basin District  
First Presbyterian Church  
601 Pine Street, Klamath Falls  
Dr. Diane Baxter, NCTM  
*Stepping into the Light:  
Thoughts on Performance Anxiety*

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

REMEMBER—you can view these grant presentations online at:  
<https://tinyurl.com/zxluqok>

*Nurturing Potential into Passion*  
by Leila Viss

*Starter Steps for Playing 18th Century  
Repertoire on the Modern Piano*  
by Donna Gunn, NCTM

*Tips for Preparing for Syllabus Exams*  
by Heidi Evans, NCTM

*Succeeding with Sonatinas*  
by Dr. Crystal Zimmerman

*Music and the Brain: How We Hear and  
Understand Melody and Rhythm*  
Dr. Crystal Zimmerman

*Authentic Baroque Dance*  
by Judith Kennedy and Daniel Stephens



# District News *Central Oregon*

Helen Jones, NCTM



Our program on April 12 will feature Matt Cooper, DMA, speaking about *Ornamentation and Performance Practice in the Sonatas of Scarlatti*. The meeting will be held at the studio of Jean Shrader. You can call Janet at 408-206-2714 for more information about this presentation.

Dr. Matt Cooper is an Ellington scholar, pianist, and author of *Duke Ellington as Pianist: A Study of Styles* (College Music Society, 2013). He was a keynote speaker and performer at the International Duke Ellington Conference in Amsterdam (2014). He was also a presenter and performer at the International Duke Ellington Conference in Woking, England (2012). While in Amsterdam, he was interviewed and performed on Dutch television, and his recital was recorded for broadcast in Europe. Dr. Cooper performs widely in the Inland Northwest, in the United States, and has also concertized several times in the Russia. He was invited to tour England and Scotland in the spring of 2016, as well as perform an Ellington recital at the Billy Strayhorn Conference at Reed College in the fall of 2015. He has taught piano, jazz studies, and music theory at Eastern Oregon University since 1991.

We are proud to welcome our newest Central Oregon District members Tanya Bruce, Philip Miscovich, and Meagan Iverson. Darlene Cusick is an Honorary Member. 



Dr. Matt Cooper



# District News *Eugene*

Dr. Janet Pollack

and

Alexis Gibbons, NCTM

*Eugene District Members*



Alexis Gibbons, NCTM

**FROM DR. JANET POLLACK:**

On March 11, our District convened for conviviality, business and a member-driven program. Unlike other weeks, the social gathering was extended from 30 to 45 minutes, and the business meeting which followed was a leisurely hour. Rather than sitting in rows during the meeting, we arranged chairs in a circle so all members faced one another and were encouraged to speak and discuss important issues freely. Immediately following the business portion, Dr. Janet Pollack, Eugene District Vice President, hosted the program titled, *Creating a Methodology for Mastering Sight-Reading*. She offered thoughts on the topic and plans for developing the proposed methodology. A lively and highly informative discussion ensued, members offered valuable advice, and it was decided that we will organize all the information gathered and place it on our District's website. Some of the topics discussed included the following: obstacles that students face when learning to read music proficiently at any stage; comparative approaches for young students versus adult learners; sight-reading methods available; online sites that are useful for sight-reading practice; the useful amount of theoretical analysis incorporated in teaching sight-reading; and a consideration of the different skills, both physical and intellectual, necessary for sight-reading.

Our District's next program will be on Monday, April 8 from 10:15–11:30 am at the home of Dr. Betsy Parker. Our members Dr. Genevieve Mason and Dr. Betsy Parker will present, *Ideas and Repertory for the Ensemble and Popular Festivals*. You can find information about our District's presentations at <https://omta-eugene.org/meetings/>. You are welcome to join us!

**FROM ALEXIS GIBBONS, NCTM:**

Our annual event, the Eugene OMTA District Recital, happened March 9. Patricia Morse did a great job of chairing this event. We had three recitals with ten teachers and thirty-three students participating. Many students used this recital as an opportunity to practice performing pieces they are preparing for Syllabus.

In April, our District is looking forward to three different events. The first event of the month will be the District Composition Celebration. The second will be the Contemporary Music Festival. This is the first year we will be having this event and Lucy Clevenger, NCTM is our wonderful chair. Our last event to cap off April is Spring Syllabus.

As our calendars fill up with events and recitals, we hope you take time to enjoy all that spring has to offer! 



# District News *Portland*

Irene Huang, NCTM



We are very happy and proud that one of our own, Susan Todd, NCTM, was honored with the 2019 MTNA Foundation Fellow Award at the MTNA National Conference Gala on March 18 in Spokane.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Susan for all the years of her service in the Portland District and offer my personal reflection on what she has meant to many of us. Ever since I joined OMTA in 2000, I've observed firsthand how Susan wears so many hats (including District President) and takes on many tasks to keep our local association going while improving and strengthening it. Above all, Susan is a wonderful colleague who is always ready to help other teachers in any way she can and is very generous with her time. She never turns down a request for help and volunteers to fill a gap without being asked.

More than just being helpful, she is also a very thoughtful and giving person who is considerate to other teachers and their circumstances. She is a kind and gentle lady whose big smile can brighten your day. She always signs off her correspondences with her cheerful signature, "Happy Trails." Just thinking about that brings a smile to my face. She has long been one of my role models for volunteerism, service and collegiality in OMTA and the Portland District. She has inspired me (perhaps unbeknownst to her) to get involved and stay involved with our District. Over time, as I've gotten



Susan Todd, NCTM, with her 2019 MTNA Foundation Fellow Award.

to know her better as a person, she is no longer just a colleague whom I respect from afar but a very dear friend whom I can count on. Thank you Susan for all of your efforts and contributions over the years on behalf of OMTA and the Portland District. Congratulations on this award! You truly deserve it. 



# District News *Tualatin Valley*

Patti Widener, NCTM



## *Happy Spring from Tualatin Valley District!*

March was a lovely month for our District. On March 8, we had our Annual Teachers recital. Laura Davis opened the recital with a lovely sacred arrangement, then Anne Young, Heidi Evans, Lilin Chen and Myrna Setiawan performed works by Barber, Beethoven, Chopin, and Schubert. To say this was a lovely musical offering is an understatement! Brava ladies! The very next day, we had our Sonatina Gallery. This non-adjudicated event is extremely popular. Sixty-two students participated. Many thanks to Teresa Sealey for chairing this event.

We are excited to host Dr. Jonandrew Slominski on Friday, April 12. He will be presenting *Listening Deeply: Acquiring Aural Skills*. Please join us at 10:00 a.m. at Tigard United Methodist Church, 9845 SW Walnut Place, 97223. Also coming up is our Sacred Recital on Saturday, April 27 which will also be held at Tigard United Methodist Church. Big thanks to Laura Davis for chairing this event. 🌿



Left to right: Laura Davis, Lilin Chen, NCTM, Dianne Davies, Heidi Evans, NCTM, Myrna Setiawan, and Anne Young, NCTM.



# Information & Acknowledgements

## Submit Articles in *Music News*

Please send articles and accompanying graphics in TIFF, EPS, JPEG or PDF format to Alexis Gibbons via e-mail: [ahgibbons@gmail.com](mailto:ahgibbons@gmail.com). MS Word and Google Doc 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)

## Board of Directors 2018–2020

PRESIDENT  
Selina Manson

EDUCATION  
Dr. Janet Pollack

PRESIDENT-ELECT  
Sara Greenleaf

FINANCE  
Fern McArthur, NCTM, Chair

SECRETARY  
Teresa Sealey

MARKETING  
Angela Kelly

TREASURER  
Fern McArthur, NCTM

MEMBERSHIP  
Melody Morrison

ASSISTANT TREASURER  
Susan Todd, NCTM

NOMINATING COMMITTEE  
Kathy Gault, NCTM, Chair

PAST PRESIDENT  
Kathy Gault, NCTM

PARLIAMENTARIAN &  
LEGISLATIVE  
Liz Willis, NCTM

BUDGET  
Kathy Gault, NCTM

CERTIFICATION  
Rebekah Carter, NCTM

PERSONNEL &  
CONTRACTED SERVICES  
Selina Manson, Chair

COMPETITIONS  
Dr. Julia Lee

PUBLIC RELATIONS  
Talia Neely-Sanfilippo

CONFERENCE  
Sara Greenleaf, Co-Chair  
Kathy Gault, Co-Chair

PUBLICATIONS  
Alexis Gibbons, NCTM

SYLLABUS  
Heidi Evans, NCTM



# Information & Acknowledgements

---



## Music News

*Edited by:*  
Alexis Gibbons  
[ahgibbons@gmail.com](mailto:ahgibbons@gmail.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](mailto:julie@tobiasweissdesign.com)  
[www.tobiasweissdesign.com](http://www.tobiasweissdesign.com)



## Administrative Assistants

Robin Power & Caris Power  
OMTA, PO Box 5335, Portland, OR 97228  
[office@oregonmta.org](mailto:office@oregonmta.org)



## 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:

*April 15, 2019*

*May 15, 2019*

*August 15, 2019*

