

OMTA MUSIC NEWS

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CONTACT & CONNECT

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Baroque Festival State Recital

March 7, 2020
Linfield College Music Center, Portland, OR

2020 MTNA Conference

March 21-25, 2020
Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile, Chicago, IL

2020 OMTA State Conference

June 25-27, 2020
Driftwood Shores Resort, Florence, OR



ESMAR

2020 Assessment Dates

Jan Mittelstaedt, NCTM, ESMAR Chair



Extended Study of Musicianship and Repertoire (ESMAR) is an OMTA educational program that gives advanced students and teachers a new goal and culminates in individual assessments or master classes as well as a group recital. ESMAR offers students an opportunity to reach new goals which are a natural outgrowth of our Syllabus program.

For example, along with new repertoire, students learn exciting scale and arpeggio routines, and a new chord progression. They also gain experience in reading chorale music, in harmonizing lead lines, and in transposing music. Students give at least one hour back to their community in a community service project and, if their assessment is successful, are invited to plan a final recital with other ESMAR participants.

Assessment Dates for 2020:

- May 9, 2020 with Dr. Lilin Chen
- June 6-7, 2020 with Dr. Jill Timmons

Please let Jan Mittelstaedt (janrmitt@gmail.com) know by **February 15, 2020** if you are interested in participating in ESMAR.



OREGON
MUSIC TEACHERS
ASSOCIATION



Selina Manson, OMTA President

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Six-Month Membership

Many of us know teachers who are not members of OMTA and often we mention they should consider joining our organization. Those people usually respond with the obvious question, "Why should I join?" Sometimes we have great answers and sometimes we are trying to list all the good things but inevitably forget something.

Each January, MTNA opens the six-month membership program. It is designed for teachers to try out membership without paying a full year of dues. Instead they pay half of the national dues. This helps to answer the question of why they should join. Over the six months from January to June, a person has access to all the benefits of membership.

In case you find yourself asking what these benefits are, allow me to list a few below:

1. MTNA webinars
2. OMTA Syllabus program
3. Student scholarships (on the OMTA website)
4. Teacher grants (on the MTNA Foundation website)
5. MTNA discounts (rental cars, hotels, insurance, Office Depot and much more)

So if you are chatting with a colleague about why they should join, mention MTNA's six-month membership. If they have extra questions you aren't sure about, send them to our state membership chair Melody Morrison, NCTM for answers.

Sincerely,

Selina Manson



The link below connects you to your local District Associations, OMTA Board of Directors, and Committee Chairs:
www.oregonmta.org/about/leadership

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CERTIFICATION



Rebekah Carter, NCTM
Certification Chair

Annual Renewal for Nationally Certified Teachers

OMTA has enjoyed celebrating with several of our members who have become Nationally Certified Teachers of Music over the past couple of years! For those of you who have completed the certification process or are currently working on it... what's next?

An important next step is Annual Renewal. NCTM instructors must renew their certification annually, even if you have permanent certification status. Renewal requires submitting evidence of continued professional growth each year and renewing your NCTM status with a nominal fee. Permanent certification status only requires the nominal renewal fee, but not the written submission of professional activities. Be sure to check out the Renewal Requirements on the certification.mtna.org website for the most up-to-date information.

One way of gathering experience to submit on your annual renewal is to consider giving back to OMTA in the way of service, whether that's on the

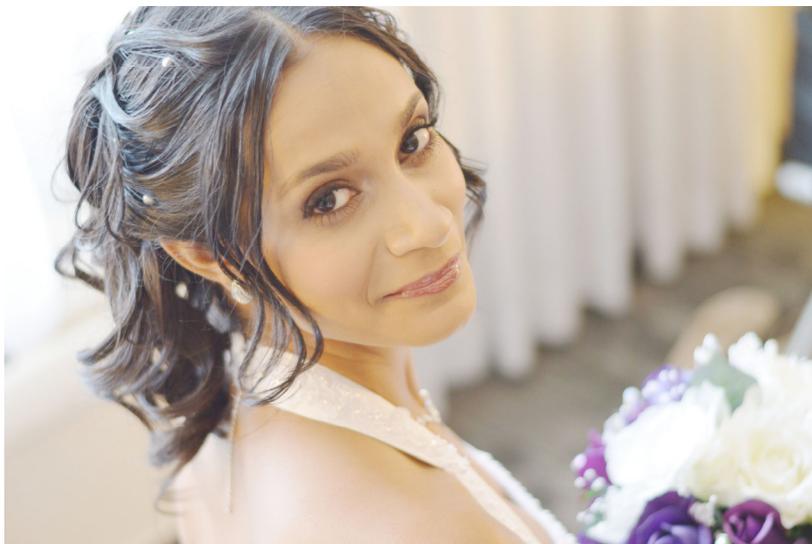
local district level or at the state level. If you're not sure where to serve, I'm sure your District President may have some ideas! Or consider contacting President-Elect Sarah Ball, NCTM about openings at the state level. In her words, *"One aspect of becoming nationally certified is that it builds a foundation both for teaching and for leadership. It enables a teacher to create their own path to career development and have more to offer. If someone is inspired to find a role, they are free to contact me."*

As Certification Chair, I am also looking for a teammate who would like to partner with me in this role. If you are interested in the Certification Journey and how it benefits teachers and our organization, please contact me to learn more about what a team role entails. I look forward to hearing from you, and I am honored to serve OMTA for another term! Please email me at rebekah@carterpiano.studio.



CONFERENCE

Sarah Barker Ball, NCTM, 2020 Conference Chair



Dr. Jessica Pacheco-Hjelmstad

Get ready for Dr. Jessica Pacheco-Hjelmstad! An award-winning Brazilian pianist, she made a stunning impression at the 2019 MTNA National Conference in Spokane. She is in demand across the country as a performer, clinician and presenter, building on her strong musical roots in her home country and her advanced degrees earned in the United States.

At the upcoming OMTA Conference (June 25–27, 2020 in Florence, Oregon), Dr. Pacheco-Hjelmstad will offer several presentations. Her offerings include a lecture recital on Brazilian piano solo pieces for pre-college and college students (including Claudio Santoro, Guerra-Peixe, Marlos Nobre and other composers), a master class (hopefully focused on Latino/South American piano solo repertoire), and a talk about Latino/South American chamber music.

Dr. Pacheco-Hjelmstad graduated in 2008 with a Bachelor of Piano at the School of Music and

Performing Arts at UFG (Federal University of Goias) in the class of Luiz Medalha Filho. She completed her Master's Degree in Piano Performance at the University of Wyoming, where she studied piano with Theresa Bogard and studied composition with Anne Guzzo. In 2015, she completed her Doctorate Degree in Piano Performance (with a minor in Chamber Music) at the University of Georgia, where she studied piano with Martha Thomas.

Currently, she keeps a busy schedule performing chamber music nationally with many different performers. In addition to the performances, she is a faculty member at Laramie County Community College, she teaches private piano lessons and chamber music in northern Colorado, and during the summer, she is the Colorado Kodaly Institute pianist and recital coordinator (at CSU).



COMPOSITION

Dianne Davies, Composition Chair

Teaching composition may feel like something we don't know how to teach or just one more thing to try and accomplish with the limited lesson time we have with students. Each month, I will be discussing time saving techniques for composition teaching to encourage more teachers to get involved. We all know that young composers are revealed by their interest and diligence. For most, just opening the door to their creativity is what many of them need.

Quick Tip for February: If you teach Syllabus, use their music skills as tools for improvisation and eventually composition. It will strengthen their skill

playing and understanding how they work in music. I show my Level I Syllabus kiddos the five-finger patterns and ask them to make up a tune using a different order of the scale with changing the left hand chords. In my studio, students experience rote learning of traditional folk songs with these chords and scale patterns, so I just add on a step by having them create their own tune. At this level, they are not afraid to try. If they begin this at Level 4 or higher, they tend to shy away from the idea. Sooner is better, but it is never too late to try. Good luck and happy music making!

EDUCATION

Dr. Janet Pollack, Education Chair

As many of you know, it has been difficult filling the two co-chair positions for the Sonatina Festival. This festival requires considerable time and organizational skills for it to run smoothly. Fern McArthur, NCTM and Sandy Hull, NCTM have done a superb job organizing this festival for a number of years. We sincerely thank them for their continued service and dedication to OMTA and the festival. This year they have chosen to step down. Regrettably, we were unable to find members to step up and assume the vacated positions in time to make the 2020 festival a reality. Preparation must begin in early January for a fall festival because there are many things that need to be dealt with. Repertoire selection, venue

reservations, hiring adjudicators are just a few of the many responsibilities of co-chairs for this event. Therefore, it was decided that there will be no Sonatina Festival in 2020, and the festival will become biennial.

Please know that I remain optimistic that members will be found who will carry forward this important and popular festival. If you would like to volunteer to serve as a co-chair in 2021, please do not hesitate to contact me at janetkippollack@comcast.net.

Wishing all our members and their students a successful year of music making!



Classic Pianos Portland Presents Two Events With
Jill Timmons, DMA

Goldberg Variations
Concert



Grant Writing
Workshop

FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 2020
7:30pm



SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 2020
8:30am-12noon

*The first of a nationwide tour, followed by
concerts in Belgium and Spain.*

Join us for a historically informed performance of Bach's pinnacle keyboard work, the Goldberg Variations. Jill Timmons, pianist, will be joined by Italian baroque scholar, Ludovica Mosca, dancing a number of the historic dances embedded in this iconic work. Post concert reception with the artists.

*Please note that both the concert and workshop
will be filmed for promotional purposes only.*



Ludovica Mosca - Baroque Dancer and Bach Scholar

*Demystifying Grant Writing:
Find Funding for Your Music Projects*

Whether you are an individual performing artist or a non-profit organization, this three-hour workshop with successful grant writer, Jill Timmons, DMA, will provide you with effective tools and strategies to develop winning proposals. Enrollment is limited to 40 people.

Both Events To Be Held At:

Classic Pianos
Recital Hall
3003 SE Milwaukie Ave
Portland, OR 97202
classicportland.com

Space is limited

To RSVP for the concert, or to register for the workshop, please contact Peggie Zackery 503.546.5622 or email: peggie@classicportland.com

Admission to both the concert and workshop is free, underwritten by Classic Pianos.

GRANTS



OMTA/OCF Nellie Tholen District Enrichment Project Programs: Teacher Enrichment for All!

Susan Todd, NCTM, OMTA/OCF Nellie Tholen District Enrichment Project Coordinator

The Nellie Tholen Grant, given by our generous and inspiring former colleague and administered by the Oregon Community Foundation, assures that OMTA can offer just that—teacher enrichment for all!

We have wonderful programs throughout the state, which are free and open to everyone. We have recordings of some of these programs, as well as all of the programs at our 2019 OMTA State Conference available for online viewing. Visit the Conference or Teacher Enrichment pages on our state website to view them. You will need your OMTA login credentials in order to view these videos. Here is a list of upcoming workshops:

Lincoln County District

Friday, February 7, 2020

10:00 am–12:00 pm

Oregon Coast Community College

South Beach Campus

400 SE College Way, Newport, OR 97366

Dr. Stephen Lewis:

The iPad as a Teaching Aid: An Overview of Ways to Integrate Tablets into Private Teaching

Learn many useful and innovative ways of using an iPad or other tablet in teaching. This includes creating bespoke weekly practice guides for students, playing recordings of music during lessons, managing billing and expenses, scheduling, recording performances for feedback, and designing print and web materials for your studio.

Eugene District

Monday, February 10, 2020

9:30 am–12:00 pm

First Congregational Church

1050 E 23rd, Eugene, OR 97405

Dr. Alexander Tutunov, NCTM:

Master Class

Dr. Tutunov will work with piano students and/or teachers in a master class setting while the audience is invited to learn by observing.

Umpqua Valley–South Coast

Monday, February 10, 2020

10:00 am–12:00 pm

Studio of Jean Melo

825 Umpqua College Rd., Roseburg, OR 97470

Cindy Peterson-Peart, NCTM:

iPad Technology in the Traditional Studio

Learn new ways to improve basic skills while having fun. Find out how easy it is to incorporate iPad technology in your teaching to motivate your students and make learning fun. We will discuss the latest apps as well as low cost ways to get started.

Salem District

Friday, March 6, 2020

10:00 am–12:00 pm

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

1770 Baxter St., Salem, OR 97306

Dr. Matt Cooper:

Ornamentation and Performance Practice: The Sonatas of Domenico Scarlatti

Dr. Cooper will present his research on ornamentation, drawing on Ralph Kirkpatrick's writings, and his harpsichord recordings of Scarlatti. He will also compare Kirkpatrick's work with that in the newer Schirmer edition edited by Eiji Hashimoto.

There will also be time for a question and answer session and coaching for teachers as well as students who are willing to play.



Umatilla-Morrow District**Saturday, March 7, 2020**

10:00 am–12:00 pm

Studio of Phyllis Peterson

820 W Alder Ave., Hermiston, OR 97838

Liz Willis, NCTM:**Collaborative Workshop: Preparation for Each Level of OMTA Syllabus**

This workshop will cover the preparation of both musicianship skills for each level of the OMTA Syllabus as well as preparation and selection of Repertoire.

Looking Ahead:

- Dr. Alexander Tutunov will give a workshop in Klamath Falls on April 3-4, 2020.
- Deborah Cleaver will give a workshop in La Grande on April 10-11, 2020.
- Dr. Johnandrew Slominski will present in Ashland on April 13, 2020 (rescheduled from January)

Past Workshops are available on the Members-Only portion of the OMTA website.

<https://oregonmta.org/teachers/enrichment-workshops/>

Do let me know if you have any questions.

Happy Trails,

Susan Todd, NCTM

OMTA/OCF Nellie Tholen District Enrichment Project Coordinator



THE SOLO
PIANO
SERIES

2019 / 2020
SEASON



RISING STAR:
BARON FENWICK

FEB 20-23, 2020 FREE!
VARIOUS VENUES



ANDERSON & ROE
PIANO DUO

MAR 14 & 15, 2020 / 4PM
LINCOLN HALL

SPECIAL OMTA TICKETS!

Students/families of OMTA teachers can purchase SOLO Series tickets for just **\$5 each**. OMTA teachers may purchase tickets for **\$20 each**. Seats are assigned the day before the performance and tickets are held at will call. To order, please call our office at **503.228.1388**. (Regular ticket prices are \$45 / \$55.)

PORTLANDPIANO.ORG



MEMBERSHIP



Melody Morrison, NCTM
Membership Chair

Let's give a warm welcome to our newest OMTA member!

East Portland

Dr. Raul Gomez-Rojas
Orchestra



 virtual **piano** pedagogue

piano master courses

Internationally recognized pianists Dean Kramer, Anton Nel, Alexander Tutunov, and Claire Wachter present their unique insights into the interpretation and performance of great piano works.

- The Sound-World of Debussy
- Anton Nel: Works by Schubert and Debussy
- The Secrets of Russian Piano Playing
- Visions of Prokofiev
- The Power of Beethoven
- The Art of the Phrase
- The Genius of Scarlatti
- The Essence of Chopin
- The Imagination of Schumann

Virtual Piano Master Course on  or VirtualPianoPedagogue.com

FUNDING PROVIDED IN PART BY THE OREGON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



Willamette University
Grace Goudy Distinguished Artists Series 2019-20 Season presents

Janina Fialkowska, piano

Wednesday, March 11, 7:00 p.m.

Hudson Concert Hall, Mary Stuart Rogers Music Center

Her playing is vibrant, daring, intellectually curious and continuously evolving ... Listening to Fialkowska play Chopin is like watching an embrace between old friends ... There is something very soulful and honest about her artistry; with everything coming from a place of integrity. Ottawa Citizen, 30 July, 2016, by Natasha Gauthier



For over 40 years, concert pianist **Janina Fialkowska** has enchanted audiences and critics around the world. She has been praised for her musical integrity, her refreshing natural approach and her unique piano sound thus becoming “one of the Grandes Dames of piano playing” (Frankfurter Allgemeine).

Born in Canada, she began her piano studies with her mother at age 4 continuing on in her native Montreal with Yvonne Hubert. In Paris she studied with Yvonne Lefebvre and in New York at the Juilliard School with Sascha Gorodnitzki, experiencing the best of both French and Russian piano traditions. Her career was launched in 1974, when the legendary Arthur Rubinstein

became her mentor after her prize-winning performance at his inaugural Master Piano Competition, calling her a “born Chopin interpreter” laying the foundation for her lifelong identification with this composer.

During her 2018/19 season, Janina Fialkowska concertized in England and Poland (two London recitals and a celebration of the Republic of Poland’s 100th anniversary with the BBC Symphony Orchestra performing the Paderewski piano concerto in London’s Barbican as well as in the award-winning Philharmonic Hall of Szczecin, Poland). She also performed several recitals and orchestral concerts in Germany, Switzerland, Austria and Spain. In spring of 2019 she returned to her native Canada for a tour in the provinces of Manitoba and Ontario as well as later that year for a tour of summer festivals. A new recording of French piano music appeared in October on the ATMA Classique label. In September she continued with the 6th edition of her own “International Piano Academy” in Bavaria and once again acted as a juror of the world’s most prestigious piano competitions.

**MASTER CLASS — free and open to the public. Hudson Concert Hall
Wednesday, March 11, Time TBD**



CONCERT TICKETS — general admission seating.

Purchase ticket at Willamette.edu/go/musicstore

Adult \$25; Seniors \$5; Willamette Faculty & Staff \$10;

Free to Students with I.D. and Children Oregon Trail Card \$5 at the door only

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

SYLLABUS



Heidi Evans, NCTM
Syllabus Chair

Becoming a Syllabus Adjudicator

I received a request to write about the requirements and training to become an OMTA Syllabus adjudicator, which is a happy subject for me. I strongly believe that the Adjudicator Evaluations from participating teachers and ongoing education requirements are two of the reasons this program continues to thrive.

The OMTA Syllabus adjudicators are a highly varied group of individuals. Some have advanced degrees. All have MTNA National Certification, which must be renewed annually. Many adjudicators are also performers, and many have also served as Syllabus District Chairs or District officers, and in OMTA elected and appointed positions. All Syllabus adjudicators are entering students in exams, and understand the varied requirements and the challenges of getting students ready for exams of this depth; a few retired teachers have only a few students but still adjudicate if needed.

Adjudicators attend two meetings a year specific to Syllabus, one of which is a day-long training seminar. They also attend workshops and conferences from the district to the national level to keep skills and knowledge sharp and up-to-date. From these workshops, we glean ideas to share with our colleagues in the Syllabus Teacher

Conference that is required of all teachers participating in the Syllabus program.

What I look for most in a potential adjudicator is a thorough knowledge of the Syllabus program in all its levels and exam types. Equally important is having strong people skills; the ability to relate to students in the exams as well as to other teachers during the Teacher Conference. Offering ideas in a supportive manner takes a specific mindset, and the Syllabus training seminars help bolster these people skills. None of us are born with perfect people skills. Just like music, it is a lifelong study. So if you have put students into all the levels of Syllabus and are willing to dedicate a few days a year to hearing high caliber students of other teachers, I'd like to encourage you to talk to your Syllabus adjudicator about making that step yourself. Information is available on the OMTA website for potential adjudicators, but you also need a letter of reference specifically from a Syllabus adjudicator.

What have I gained from being a Syllabus adjudicator (besides a big job)? I've had the privilege of hearing wonderful students all over the state and region performing at their best. I constantly get introduced to new repertoire (so fun!) and I get to meet and chat with professional



colleagues who always broaden my own horizons. Sometimes I even get teaching tips for my own students by seeing how another teacher has taught a concept! I've made friends throughout the state and gained a new appreciation for all that makes up Oregon—from big cities to the most rural communities, we are all united in appreciation of beautiful music, played well, with strong foundations of skills and listening.

As always, remember to register students well in advance of deadlines and to be courteous when

interacting with your district chairperson. Keep scheduling requests reasonable and minimal, and plan to be at EVERY student exam. Questions about Syllabus should first be directed to your district chair, or to the Syllabus Repertoire Committee.

Please contact me with any topics surrounding Syllabus that you would like me to write about in future Music News publications. Suggestions are always appreciated!

WELLNESS FOR MUSICIANS SYMPOSIUM

March 7-8, 2020

One student free admission with OMTA member

The PSU School of Music and Theater will present a two-day Wellness for Musicians Symposium March 7-8, 2020 as part of our new Mind Body Music Series. Topics will include Body Mapping, Alexander Technique, nutrition, hearing loss prevention, exercise, yoga and meditation.



To learn more about this event, scan the code to the left or visit our website at www.pdx.edu/music/mbm-symposium

MIND
BODY
MUSIC
SERIES

Portland State
UNIVERSITY



OREGON
MUSIC TEACHERS
ASSOCIATION

CENTRAL OREGON DISTRICT



Helen Jones, NCTM,
Central Oregon District
Secretary



Our winter in Central Oregon has started to look snowy and picturesque. Before the snow came, we had our first meeting of the year on January 10. Central Oregon District members **Kathy Gault, NCTM** and **Margaret Littlehales, NCTM** gave a wonderful and informative program called *Notes from a Teacher's Notebook*. They talked about topics practical to all

teachers. The topics ranged from how to talk on the phone to a prospective student to ways to handle a student who would like to quit lessons. They mentioned things that we have all gone through and the audience responded with ideas every teacher can use.

feature many teachers playing pieces we call student savers. These are pieces that sound hard but are easy to play and may save a student who is going through a slump. We all need pieces like that! Program Chair and President-Elect **Janet Smith** will lead the discussion.

Our February 14 (Happy Valentine's Day!) program will



Kathy Gault and Margaret Littlehales



Winter in Central Oregon



EUGENE DISTRICT



Alexis Gibbons, NCTM
Eugene District Correspondence Secretary

The Eugene District started off the new year with a fantastic program presented by Jennifer Wright. On January 13, Jennifer presented *Playing Perfectly: What it Takes to Practice and Perform Completely Without Mistakes (or fear of mistakes)*. I'm sure our members were curious if this is actually possible and we were pleased to hear such an engaging lecture about it from Jennifer. She is a dynamic speaker and has an impressive resume. She told us stories from her own performance career that led her to come up with the topic she presented. We also had a brave member, Neil Patton, that volunteered as she demonstrated some of her teaching techniques. Accompanying her lecture was a thorough and informative handout. Thank you so much for a phenomenal program!

Next month, our District will be hosting Dr. Alexander Tutanov for a masterclass on February 10 at 9:30 am. We are also looking forward to our Baroque Festival happening on February 8. Big thanks to Ellen McQuilkin, NCTM and Dr. Olga Aynvarg for co-chairing this event. The last event of note in February will be a composition workshop at 1:00 pm

on Saturday, February 15 at Paul Safar's Studio, 1022 Monroe Street. Students that are intending to enter the Composition Celebration are invited to bring their compositions that are in the works. The plan is to informally share ideas among all of us to help finish pieces in time of the deadline on March 12.



Presenter Jennifer Wright with gracious volunteer, Neil Patton.



EAST PORTLAND DISTRICT

Liz Willis, NCTM, East Portland District President

The East Portland District celebrated the holidays on December 10 with a morning of sharing favorite holiday foods and playing music together. It was a nice opportunity to socialize, have fun sight reading duets and some two-piano literature, as well as enjoying a few solo presentations.

Our next meeting will be February 10 with a program by our State President, Selina Manson titled *Erik Satie: Pieces Beyond the Gymnopedies*. We will meet at 10:00 a.m. at Portland Piano Company, 8700 NE Columbia Blvd, Portland. All are welcome!



East Portland District Members



"Seriousness with youthful abandon" – NY Times
Conrad Tao
 November 3



"Every note is perfectly tempered" – The Guardian
Yulianna Avdeeva
 March 1



Steinway
Piano Series



"Breathtaking virtuosity" – La Figaro
Sergei Babayan
 April 19

ALL CONCERTS ARE
 on SUNDAYS at 4 pm
 at
 OSU'S
 LaSells Stewart Center
 875 SW 26th Street
 Corvallis

Season Tickets
 \$60

You may pre-order tickets by mailing your name and address and the number of tickets you would like along with your check to:
Corvallis-OSU Piano International
 P.O Box 2843
 Corvallis, OR 97339-2843

For More Information:
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ABOUT *MUSIC NEWS*

Submit Articles for *Music News*

Please send articles and accompanying graphics in TIFF, EPS, JPEG or PDF format to Alexis Gibbons via email: ahgibbons@gmail.com. MS Word and Google Doc files preferred.

If a photo includes a student that is a minor, please send a completed photo release form. Here is the link: https://oregonmta.org/wp-content/uploads/OMTA_PhotoVideo_Release_Form.pdf

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Half Single Column	\$25	2.6" W x 4.375" H
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Half Page	\$70	8.5" W x 5.5" H (no bleed)
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Visit www.oregonmta.org/publications to order ad space.

Publication dates and deadlines are listed below.

Submitting material before deadlines is always helpful and appreciated.

Submission Deadlines

The submission deadline is always the 15th of the month preceding the date of publication.

January	December 15
February	January 15
March	February 15
April	March 15
May	April 15
June	May 15
September	August 15
October	September 15
November	October 15
December	November 15

Upcoming Deadlines

February 15, 2020
March 15, 2020



Music News Acknowledgements

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