

# OMTA MUSIC NEWS

Opus 75, No. 9 · May 2021

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## CONTACT & CONNECT

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### 2021 OMTA State Conference

June 24-25, 2021  
Riverhouse on the Deschutes, Bend, OR

### 2022 MTNA National Conference

March 26-30, 2022  
Minneapolis, Minnesota



## PRESIDENT'S CORNER



**Sarah Ball, NCTM**  
OMTA President

### Growth Mindset

As the colors of spring miraculously unfold around us, I am reminded of Carol Dweck's concept of the growth mindset in her book, *Mindset: The New Psychology of Success*. Those who have cultivated a growth mindset enjoy tackling new challenges, have confidence that they can learn what is needed to succeed, and "have a special talent for converting life's setbacks into future successes."

This spring, as usual, the many branches of OMTA are often hunting for fresh volunteers to keep our Districts running and our students progressing. I encourage you to step up and help, even if the job sounds daunting. Better yet, call your District President and ask if they need any help! Of course, you might not know how to fulfill the duties of a new role, but it could be just the opportunity you need to discover new abilities. How fascinating to learn about a "new" part of OMTA! Would you like to have a greater positive impact on the teachers and students in our organization? Your fellow members and officers can help you learn the ropes, while identifying colleagues as needed for support. We can hardly wait to watch you grow!

*Sarah Ball, NCTM*  
OMTA President



OREGON  
MUSIC TEACHERS  
ASSOCIATION

# HONORS COMMITTEE

## 2021 OMTA Honorary Life Members

Fern McArthur, NCTM

In our non-profit and volunteer association, it is important to honor those who have generously devoted time, effort and imagination to our purpose. One recognition is State Honorary Life Membership to those who have been members for at least 25 years and have given extraordinary service at district and state levels. In its January meeting, your OMTA Board approved nominations of two Honorary Life Members, **Susan Todd, NCTM**, and **Cindy Peterson-Peart, NCTM**.



Susan Todd, NCTM

Susan Todd served as President and Secretary of the greater Portland District. She was also chair of the Hillsboro Focus Group and later co-chair of the committee to start the West Portland District when the greater Portland District divided. She served as **OMTA President-Elect**, organizing an exciting Conference with Portland Piano International, and as **OMTA President**, Susan instigated the inception of our state office. She worked to improve our digital footprint among many other initiatives to move forward the association. Following her presidency, OMTA honored her with the designation of **MTNA Foundation Fellow**.

Susan continues to serve our association with, as she says, "many different hats." She is program coordinator for the OCF grant to serve our remote districts and is a member of the Executive Committee as **Restricted Funds Treasurer**. For many years, Susan has worked as a coordinator for the MTNA Competitions. She serves as Honors Committee chair, serves on the Scholarship Commission, and is a much appreciated Syllabus adjudicator. There are so many hats that I probably missed a few!



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

[www.oregonmta.org/about/leadership](http://www.oregonmta.org/about/leadership)

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#### SYLLABUS

Heid Evans, NCTM



2021 OMTA Honorary Life Members, continued from previous page



Cindy Peterson-Peart, NCTM

Cindy Peterson-Peart, like Susan, is also an honored **MTNA Foundation Fellow**. She served as an energetic and forward-thinking **OMTA President**. Under her leadership as President, Oregon won the MTNA State Affiliate of the year. As **OMTA President-Elect/Conference Chair**, she took us to Bend for an exciting and enriching Conference. We look forward to being there again this year. In her Portland District, Cindy is a Past President, long-time Treasurer, and served on the committee for Portland Period Festivals.

Cindy continues her service for OMTA as Operations Bookkeeper, MTNA Competitions Coordinator, Syllabus scheduling chair, and Syllabus adjudicator. She is well known on the national stage as she served as NW Division Director, MTNA Collegiate Chapter Forum chair, State President's Advisory Commission chair and MTNA Membership Council member. She is our newly elected **MTNA Vice President**. Congratulations, Cindy!

Our friends in Portland say that Susan and Cindy are "energizer bunnies." They are generous with their time to answer questions and help to solve problems. They are the "go to people." Irene Huang, West Portland District President, says she "could not do the job without them." This commitment and collaboration is what makes OMTA relevant, necessary, and special. So everyone, join in and congratulate Susan and Cindy!



PRESENTS



**DANIEL HSU**  
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# CONFERENCE



**Selina Manson**  
2021 State Conference Chair

## Conference Presenter Spotlight: Dr. Artina McCain

OMTA is excited to welcome Dr. Artina McCain as one of our main presenters at the annual OMTA State Conference in Bend on June 24 and 25. The committee thought it would be fun to share some information about her before Conference. Here are a few snippets from her bio: Described as a pianist with “power and finesse” (Dallas Arts Society), “beautiful and fiery” (KMFA Austin), and having a “sense of color, balance and texture” (Austin Chamber Music Center), Artina McCain, has built a three-fold career as a performer, educator and speaker.

Dedicated to promoting the works of Black and other underrepresented composers, McCain curates Black Composers Concerts for multiple arts organizations and is an American Prize winner for her solo piano recordings of these works.



Dr. Artina McCain

McCain is an advocate for musician wellness. Her article on performance injury and Muscle Activation Techniques was published in *Clavier Companion* and she is a regular contributor for the *Piano Magazine*.

Visit the OMTA State Conference page to read McCain’s full bio:

<https://oregonmta.org/omta-state-conference>.

You can also visit McCain’s website to learn more about her: <https://artinamccain.com>.

McCain plans to give presentations about underrepresented composers and healthy practice techniques. She will also give a concert featuring underrepresented composers and host an intermediate master class.

Be sure to register online by May 28 to receive a printed copy of the conference booklet. Livestream attendees will receive their booklet by mail the week prior to Conference. Streaming passes are \$50.

Sincerely,

*Selina Manson*  
2021 Conference Chair



## GRANTS



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

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

We have just one presentation left this season! In the April issue of Music News, this was mistakenly listed as being hosted by Central Oregon District. Rather, it is hosted by Lincoln County District. Contact Susan Todd or Lincoln County President, Rita Warton for the link and join us!

Additional details are on the OMTA website: <https://oregonmta.org/teachers/enrichment-workshops>.

Proposals for the 2021-2022 Presenter Roster are now being accepted. Send your recommendations for presenters to include, or your own proposed title and description, to Susan Todd by May 7.



Dr. Crystal Zimmerman

### Dr. Crystal Zimmerman

#### Non-Verbal Teaching: Identifying and Utilizing Learning Styles

Lincoln County District on Zoom

Friday, May 7, 2021

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

*Learn how you can enhance non-verbal communication and overall rapport with students and identify what sensory modes might need further development.*

#### Other Resources:

- Programs from the 2019 and 2020 OMTA State Conferences: <https://oregonmta.org/teachers/conferences>
- Past District Workshops: <https://oregonmta.org/teachers/enrichment-workshops>

**Videos to help teachers adapt to teaching online, created Spring 2020, are still available on the following sites:**

- OMTA Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/oregonmta>
- OMTA YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCU4gbeA1xzDnRBpg1sPGaBQ/>
- OMTA Vimeo channel: <https://vimeo.com/omta>

Stay well!

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



# SYLLABUS



**Heidi Evans, NCTM**  
Syllabus Chair

As our year is winding to a close, I have the usual May reminders. First of all, thank your District Syllabus Chair for all their hard work in helping us offer virtual Syllabus exams this year. Last month, I thanked all the participating teachers and acknowledged the amount of work that goes into virtual exams, above and beyond the normal amount to prepare students for each level, and I'm deeply appreciative.

I would like to add a special note of thanks to the Syllabus adjudicators who have shouldered an extra measure of work in advance of each week's Syllabus schedule, as they receive and respond to emails far above what is expected in a normal year. Many extra hours of (unpaid) work go into each weekend's schedule, and I think we have a truly outstanding phalanx of adjudicators!

You're all wondering if next year will be virtual or in person or both. This month, I don't have a definitive answer

for you. I will announce this on the OMTA website as soon as I do.

Now to one of the most fun and rewarding parts of Syllabus, our intrepid Level X students! The OMTA 2021 Level X Recital will be held virtually this year but awards can be ordered from the Level X chair, Lacie Mitts, on the OMTA Syllabus page (<https://oregonmta.org/programs/syllabus>) by May 28, which is also the deadline for the video links. Please notice that the two forms are separated this year, and fill out both if applicable. The letters of explanation continue to be available from the State Syllabus Chair and should be requested by email, with the student's name spelled clearly, and the address for mailing. The Syllabus Chair email is [syllabus.chair@oregonmta.org](mailto:syllabus.chair@oregonmta.org).

Wishing you all a merry month of May!

*Heidi Evans, NCTM*  
*Syllabus Chair*



# ROGUE VALLEY DISTRICT

Thor Polson, Rogue Valley District Reports Chair

On April 24, Dr. Matt Goodrich conducted a master class titled *Integrative Performance Skills*. This presentation will deal with coaching from a holistic, performance-oriented point of view. Dr. Goodrich is an active soloist, chamber musician, theatrical performer, and founder/director of Kinetic Muse Studio, a center for integrative Alexander Technique and performance training.

Syllabus adjudications took place remotely from April 16-18 with Susan Todd, NCTM serving as the adjudicator.

Barring unforeseen circumstances, the Sonatina Festival will be held as planned on May 15 and 16 with Southern Oregon University professor Dr. Alexander Tutunov, NCTM serving as the adjudicator. This event is open to students up to 18 years of age who are currently studying with OMTA members of the Rogue Valley District. Competing students will perform from memory a complete sonatina or sonata with at least two movements, and all competing students will be invited to perform one movement at the Sonatina Festival Recital on May 16. If students are not able to meet the

age or memorization requirements or if they simply choose to not do so, they may participate for evaluation comments only. Students may enter in one of three divisions corresponding to the following Syllabus levels: Division I (III, IV & V), Division II (V, VI & VII), and Division III (VII, VIII, IX & X). Ribbons are awarded to the winners of first, second, and third place in each division, and to the honorable-mention winners as well, and participants will receive a certificate of participation and an evaluation from the adjudicator.

## PORTLAND PIANO INTERNATIONAL

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JANINA FIALKOWSKA

Canadian

**MAR 12 / 13, 2022**



NICOLAS NAMORADZE

Georgian/Hungarian

**APR 2 / 3, 2022**



PAUL LEWIS

English

**MAY 7 / 8, 2022**



JON KIMURA PARKER

Canadian

**JUNE 4 / 5, 2022**

**SEASON SUBSCRIPTIONS** will be available for purchase May 15, 2021. Please order online or call **(503) 228** during office hours (9-4 Mon-Thu).

**SINGLE TICKETS** go on sale September 1, 2021. Some student and teacher discounts for single tickets will be available. Contact Robin Power for details. Email [robin@portlandpiano.org](mailto:robin@portlandpiano.org).

All recitals are at 4PM in Lincoln Performance Hall

[portlandpiano.org](http://portlandpiano.org)

# CENTRAL OREGON DISTRICT



**Helen Jones, NCTM**  
Central Oregon District  
Secretary



Our District is delighted that OMTA President, Sarah Ball, NCTM, will share a presentation with us that is titled *How Do Children Learn? An Investigation of Constructivist Teaching Methods in the Music Studio*. Tracing the learning theories of developmental psychologists Piaget, Vgotsky and Bruner, this presentation will offer a framework for engaging the child's mind. Flowing directly from that approach, Sarah will offer several examples from her studio, and encourage participants to offer their successful strategies as well. Her presentation will be held

on May 7 at 10:45 AM. Contact [jstrekkie@gmail.com](mailto:jstrekkie@gmail.com) for the Zoom link if you would like to join us. We look forward to hearing from her!



Sarah Ball, NCTM

## OMTA Hybrid State Conference

Thursday, June 24-Friday, June 25, 2021 · Riverhouse Hotel in Bend, OR

### Location

Hosted at the Riverhouse Hotel in Bend, OR, where modern sophistication and world-class amenities meets the relaxing location on the banks of the Deschutes River, this conference will stimulate and inspire as colleagues from around the state gather to collaborate, refine their craft, and refresh themselves. In-person registration will be limited to 25 attendees.

### Conference Artists

OMTA is honored to welcome **Dr. William Chapman Nyaho, NCTM**, and **Dr. Artina McCain** as our acclaimed conference artists, accompanied by presenters **Cindy Peterson-Peart, NCTM** and **Gary Ruppert**.

### Conference Presentations

- *Performance Anxiety: Tips on Combating 'The Shakes'* by Dr. William Chapman Nyaho
- *Kaleidoscope: Introducing Students to Underrepresented Composers* by Dr. Artina McCain
- *Building Healthy Practice Techniques from Injury to Prevention* by Dr. Artina McCain
- *The Beatles Reimagined* by Gary Ruppert
- Concerts, Masterclasses, and more!

REGISTER TODAY AT [WWW.OREGONMTA.ORG](http://WWW.OREGONMTA.ORG).



## EAST PORTLAND DISTRICT



**Liz Willis, NCTM**  
East Portland District President

It is difficult to accept that spring is passing so quickly. East Portland's lower and upper division Syllabus events are finished, and the combined Portland Romantic Festival is starting very soon (virtually, of course).

April 24 was our second Saturday meeting of this year. We enjoyed the program titled *10 Ways to Incorporate Social Justice Into Your Studio*, which was presented by members of the group, A Seat at the Piano. Our OMTA member Ashlee Young is our link to this

new non-profit, and I encourage everyone to check out their website at [aseatatthepiano.com](http://aseatatthepiano.com). It is a terrific resource for promoting inclusion in piano repertoire!

Our final meeting will be held on Monday, May 24 at 10 AM. A presentation on *Body Mapping* will be given by Lisa Marsh, Director of the Coordinate Movement Program of Portland State University. Any questions on skills or passages in repertoire may be submitted to Lisa before the program at her email,

[l88marsh@comcast.net](mailto:l88marsh@comcast.net). We will also vote on our incoming officers for 2021-2023!

We look forward to meeting in person soon, hopefully in the fall!

*Liz Willis, NCTM*  
*President, East Portland*



## EUGENE DISTRICT



**Sandy Hull**

Eugene District Corresponding Secretary

Greetings from Eugene District!

The Eugene District is pleased to report our continued commitment to providing ongoing education for our teachers as well as performance opportunities for our students. We are so fortunate to have Dr. Janet Pollack, Vice President and Program Chair, for securing some of the most interesting and informative presenters this year.

Our Eugene OMTA District Recital was held Saturday, March 13 via Zoom using a new format of real-time performances mixed with pre-recorded performances. We had forty students and nine studios represented. Thanks goes to Ellen McQuilkin for chairing this event

and Genevieve Mason who hosted it on Zoom. It was wonderful to be able to interact and applaud spontaneously for the first time this year. Several students played duets, and a few students showed original artwork that was inspired by their pieces. Listeners were treated to a wide variety of pieces and exceptional playing.

The Student Composition Celebration took place on Sunday, April 11 at 2 PM on Zoom. Michael Johanson, professor at Lewis Clark College in Portland, was our adjudicator and gave students private feedback on their compositions. In addition to this event, Paul Safar and Nick Rieser held a composition workshop in February to help students get

started and provide tips. Thanks Paul and Nick for encouraging and motivating our students and teachers to foster this valuable skill.

As we wrap up the year, we are looking forward to our Teacher's Showcase Recital, which will be held on Sunday, May 16 at 3 PM on Zoom. The student winner of the Beverly Soule Memorial Scholarship will be performing along with teachers in our District.

Sincerely Submitted,

*Sandy Hull, NCTM*



# TUALATIN VALLEY DISTRICT



**Teresa Sealey**

Tualatin Valley District President

Happy Spring from Tualatin Valley District!

We are wrapping our busy Spring with a few more events. At our monthly meeting in April we had a lovely Teachers Recital with five of our colleagues performing this year. Traditionally, we have this concert in preparation for a concert at The Old Church lunchtime series. Since The Old Church concerts are currently canceled, it was even more important for our members to enjoy the wonderful pieces being played. We had a great discussion after each piece and learned a lot about the music history and background of both composer and the selection played. The selections played by our colleagues were:

**Heidi Evans**

Nimble Feet  
Dances in the Canebrakes  
Florence Price

**Darlene Cusick**

Jeux d'Eau  
Maurice Ravel

**Lilin Chen**

Sonata in D Major  
Wq 61/2

1. Allegro di molto
  2. Allegretto
  3. Presto di molto
- Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach

The Seasons  
Op. 37b, No.10  
October Autumn Song  
Pyotr Tchaikovsky

**Myrna Setiawan**

Andante Spianato & Grande  
Polonaise Brillante  
Op. 22  
Frédéric Chopin

**Dianne Davies**

Children's Songs  
No. 15 thru 20  
Chick Corea  
(Percussionist: Kaleb Davies)

Happening now!

- Scholarship Auditions were held April 23. We had one applicant for this year's scholarship. Auditions were held virtually. The purpose of

this scholarship is to encourage and reward high school seniors planning to major or minor in music.

- Upper Division Spring Syllabus will be held on April 30-May 2 with sixty-one students participating.
- Our District is looking forward to an amazing year in 2021-2022. We are currently selecting members to serve on our Executive Board for the new year, plus looking for volunteers to fill the open positions.

For the Joy of Music!

*Teresa Sealey*  
*President, Tualatin Valley District*



# ABOUT *MUSIC NEWS*

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Please send articles and accompanying graphics in TIFF, EPS, JPEG or PDF format to Alexis Gibbons via email: [musicnews@oregonmta.org](mailto:musicnews@oregonmta.org). MS Word and Google Doc files preferred.

Related imagery is encouraged to be submitted along with your article. Images must fall into one of these categories:

- Your own work—i.e. you took the photograph
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Attach images to the same email as your article submission. Include a short (one sentence/phrase) caption of each image.

If a photo includes a student that is a minor, please send a completed photo release form. Here is the link:  
[www.oregonmta.org/wp-content/uploads/OMTA\\_PhotoVideo\\_Release\\_Form.pdf](http://www.oregonmta.org/wp-content/uploads/OMTA_PhotoVideo_Release_Form.pdf)

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Visit [www.oregonmta.org/publications](http://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.

<b>January</b>	December 15
<b>February</b>	January 15
<b>March</b>	February 15
<b>April</b>	March 15
<b>May</b>	April 15
<b>June</b>	May 15
<b>September</b>	August 15
<b>October</b>	September 15
<b>November</b>	October 15
<b>December</b>	November 15



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