OMTA MUSIC NEWS

Opus 76, No. 9 · May 2022

UPCOMING EVENTS

2022 OMTA State Conference
Registration Now Open!
June 23-24, 2022
Florence Events Center, Florence OR
Lodging at Driftwood Shores Resort

State Composition Celebration
Registration Forms due May 5, 2022
Video Recordings due May 10, 2022

Syllabus Level X
Awards Form, Recital Form, and Video Recordings due May 30, 2022

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Sarah Ball, NCTM
OMTA President

Congratulations!

Congratulations to **Michael Gu** and his teacher **Dr. Rachelle McCabe**! He was awarded the Chopin Prize for his performance in the 2022 MTNA Senior Piano Competition.

Kudos also to **Joan Tay** and **Dasol Um** and their teacher **Dr. Claire Wachter** for receiving third place in the new Stecher and Horowitz Two Piano Competition. We acknowledge the tremendous significance and sweetness of your success at the national level, and celebrate the caliber of your work right here in Oregon. Please click here for further details: www.oregonmta.org/about/news.

Michael Gu

Joan Tay and Dasol Um

These extraordinary achievements draw attention to the high musical standards to which we all aspire in OMTA. Our festivals, competitions, master classes, Syllabus and other events provide an oxygen-rich environment in which our students can thrive. We

admire and appreciate the exceptional teaching skills of Dr. Wachter and Dr. McCabe, who set the standard for goal-oriented, perceptive, encouraging, and nuanced instruction. Thanks to your expertise and dedication, Michael, Joan and Dasol are achieving their potential and inspiring us all.

Sarah Ball, NCTM
OMTA President

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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2022 OMTA STATE CONFERENCE

June 23-24, 2022 · Florence Events Center · Florence, OR

Liz Willis, NCTM
2022 State
Conference Chair

Who knew that we have meat-eating plants in Oregon?! These plants are called Darlingtonias, or Cobra Lilies, and there is an Oregon State Natural Site five miles north of Florence where they can be observed from a boardwalk.

Florence is also where sand dunes start and extend over forty miles south to the Coos Bay area. Just outside Florence heading South is Honeyman State Park with two nice lakes, Lake Cleawox and Lake Woahink. The lakes are open for fishing, small boating and paddling with sand dunes right at the shorelines.

The largest sea cave in the country, and the only known mainland home of wild sea lions, is only 10.5 miles north of Florence. And, of course, there is the usual horseback riding, dune buggy tours, sandboarding, and more!

Come in person this year and don't miss out on the opportunities to enjoy all the nature the coast has to offer! The Florence Events Center is massive, allowing for easy social distancing during presentations and the concerts. Registration is now open online and very user friendly. Bring your significant other, kids, and friends! They can stay happily occupied while you are soaking up master classes, presentations, and concerts.

Click here to see what happened last year in Bend (https://tinyurl.com/omta2021) and start making plans for Florence! Register today at https://oregonmta.org/omta-state-conference.

Darlingtonias, also known as Cobra Lilies

MEMBERSHIP

Andrew D'Antonio
OMTA Membership Chair

I am happy to announce the following new member:

- **Ryan Zwahlen** is a new active member in the Central Oregon District.

We extend a most gracious welcome to OMTA, and we look forward to meeting and working with you!

GRANT PROGRAMS

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

Karen Huntsberger, NCTM
Nellie Tholen Grant Coordinator

We have just three presentations left this season. You are welcome at all virtual programs. Feel free to invite a colleague, students, or teachers interested in joining OMTA to attend. Contact the District President for the Zoom link for any presentation shown below: https://oregonmta.org/about/leadership/district-presidents.

Up-to-date information is available on the OMTA website. Please email me at grant.coordinator@oregonmta.org with any questions.

Access to videos of previous presentations no longer requires a separate password. Just log in to the OMTA website with your personal login and password to view past workshop videos: https://oregonmta.org/teachers/enrichment-workshops.

Proposals for the 2022-2023 Presenter Roster are now being accepted. Send your recommendations for presenters to include, or your own proposed title and description to Karen Huntsberger by May 7.

Upcoming Grant Programs:

MAY 6

Dr. Thomas Otten

Lincoln County District via Zoom
Friday, May 6, 2022, 10:00 AM–12:00 PM

Dr. Thomas Otten, NCTM
Teachings of Nelita True: An Homage

Nelita True, who passed away in January 2021 due to COVID, was one of the great artist teachers and clinicians of our time. Dr. Otten counts his study with her as one of his great blessings and joys; much of his pedagogical approach is due to his work with her. This session will illuminate her highly practical, organized, and effective approach to musicianship (tone, voicing, line, rhythmic direction), technique, practice, and memorization, along with anecdotes that underscore her warm, nurturing approach to her students.

MAY 6

Dr. Matt Cooper

Central Oregon District via Zoom

Friday, May 6, 2022, 10:45 AM–12:15 PM

Dr. Matt Cooper
Duke Ellington, the Pianist

Duke Ellington has been widely acknowledged as America's greatest "jazz" composer, but from a 21st Century perspective, many are now viewing his work as the equal of other composers working from European models. Dr. Cooper will share Ellington piano works such as "The Single Petal of a Rose," "Meditation," and "The Clothed Woman" as well as original transcriptions from his book, *Duke Ellington as Pianist: A Study in Styles* (College Music Society, 2013) and attempt to place Ellington in his rightful place in the wider canon of American music and music in general.

MAY 21

Dr. Thomas Otten

Umatilla-Morrow District via Zoom

Saturday, May 21, 2022, 2:00–4:00 PM

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

What makes for a stylistically appropriate performance? Should we use the same amount of pedal in Mozart as Chopin? How do we choose articulations in Baroque music? These and similar questions will be examined to shed light on the often confusing musical choices we have when performing and teaching music from many different style periods.

Other Resources:

Videos from the **2021 OMTA State Conference** are now posted on the members-only part of the OMTA website. Whether you went to the conference or not, this is a great resource!

- Programs from the 2019-2021 OMTA State Conferences: https://oregonmta.org/teachers/conferences

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

- OMTA Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/oregonmta
- OMTA YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/c/oregonmta/videos
- OMTA Vimeo channel: https://vimeo.com/showcase/6946123

SYLLABUS

Heidi Evans, NCTM
Syllabus Chair

It's May and it's time to celebrate all the successes of this year. Against the odds, with a reduced staff, we were able to pull off a complete Syllabus season in hybrid format! So let's celebrate the students who stepped up and practiced hard, the teachers who prepared them, the adjudicators who gave up all their weekends to keep the Syllabus programs running, and the district chairs who put together the schedules and made it happen!

My favorite part of May is seeing my email inbox get clogged with requests for the Letter of Explanation for Level X students. It's a happy clog… dance. Instructions for receiving the Level X Awards and participating in the Level X virtual recital are due before May 30 and can all be found at: https://oregonmta.org/programs/syllabus.

I would like to thank a few more people as we close out this year.

- Cindy Peterson-Peart is our Syllabus Scheduling Chair, and she managed the herculean task of filling all days with adjudicators.
- My co-chair, Ellen McQuilkin, who unfailingly offers wise counsel and perspective.
- Our bookkeeper, Karen Huntsberger, who makes sure the adjudicators get paid in a timely manner and wrote a lot of our forms for the website.
- Our Syllabus Adjudicator Training Chair, Crystal Zimmerman, who puts a lot of time and effort into training our new adjudicator applicants.
- Our Level X chair, Lacie Mitts, who mails out awards throughout the year and puts together the recital as well.
- Finally, our office staff, Caris and Robin Power, whose quick actions and constant support keep us going with certificates, recording the grades, updating the Syllabus page on the OMTA website, and distributing the Syllabus materials.

What a team!

Look for some big changes coming to the Syllabus program next year, which will be announced at the conference in Florence. I hope to see you there!

COMPOSITION CELEBRATION

Dianne Davies
State Composition Chair

Congratulations to the West Portland District! After several years of not having a District Composition Event, Josef Hofmann, of the Hoffman Academy, is the chairperson for West Portland beginning 2023. Kudos also go to the Roseburg and East Portland Districts for their rekindled interest in providing this event for their district. I am looking forward to their participation in 2023.

I wanted to follow up with an article I did back in February and give some more options for composition tools to get your students' composition onto the staff in a clean and professional way.

1) FLAT Composition App for Ipad

Helpful Teaching Feature: With this app, you and your student can collaborate in real time. This makes suggestions or corrections easy for you as the teacher.

Getting Started Tutorial
https://flat.io/product-overview

2) Notation Pad Available for iOS and Android

Helpful Teaching Feature: For teachers with a different composition software, this app easily exports a MusicXML file. An XML file is shared sheet music that can go directly into another composition software for editing. The list of compatible software are (Finale, Sibelius, Encore, MuseScore, etc).

Getting Started Tutorial
https://tinyurl.com/notationpad

State Composition Celebration Reminders

Honored Composers sheet music will be available for purchase and mailed to participants, teachers and anyone interested after payment is received. The cost varies based on the number of entries and length of scores, **approximately $7-$10 per book**.

The State Composition Celebration Virtual Event will be available on the state website beginning **June 1, 2022.**

CENTRAL OREGON DISTRICT

Helen Jones, NCTM
Central Oregon District
Secretary

On May 6, Dr. Matt Cooper will present for us a program (in person) entitled *Ebony and Ivory: American Composers from Copland to Ellington.*

Dr. Matt Cooper

Matt will delve into published works, transcriptions, and unpublished manuscripts by iconic American piano composers from the 20th century such as Copland, Barber and Gershwin, all of whom in their own way embraced the American musical landscape. He will give special emphasis to Duke Ellington, who has been widely acknowledged as America's greatest jazz composer. From a 21st century perspective, many are now viewing his work as the equal of other composers working from European models. Matt will also include other jazz greats such as Art Tatum, Dave Brubeck, Oscar Peterson, Bill Evans and Valerie Capers.

The program will be held Friday, May 6, at 10:30 AM in Bend. Contact Janet Smith at jstrekkie@gmail.com for the location. All are welcome to attend!

Central Oregon Music Teachers

HUMORESQUE

How do you make a bandstand? Take away the chairs!

EUGENE DISTRICT

Sandy Hull, NCTM
Eugene District Corresponding Secretary

Welcome spring! It's been a long two years of COVID mandates and restrictions. I feel so fortunate that our OMTA leadership and creative teachers got to work and put in place guidelines and protocols to allow us to teach safely and with confidence. Many Zoom recitals, meetings and lectures continued as we adapted for our own students as well.

Eugene District is delighted to announce the nominees for our new Board of Officers: Nick Rieser, President, Grace Ho, Vice President (Program Chair), Sarah B. Rose, Treasurer, Soria Phillips-Meadow, Recording Secretary, and Janet Pollack as Corresponding Secretary. Thanks to the nominating committee Nick Rieser and Alexis Gibbons for reaching out to our members. The new board will be voted in at our May 11 meeting/brunch.

Our April festivals were in person and went smoothly thanks to the hard work and organizational skills of our volunteer chairs. The Composition Celebration was held Sunday, April 10 with six participating students and evaluated by Daniel Vega. Thanks Paul Safar and Nick Rieser, chairs. The proposal for next year's festival will be possibly a film score theme rather than independent pieces. The Contemporary Festival was also on Sunday, April 10 later in the day with seventeen performers split into two short programs. It was so wonderful to hear live performances. Thanks Lucy Clevenger for chairing this event.

Eugene Spring Syllabus was Friday through Sunday, April 22-24. Thank you Carol White for chairing this event. Syllabus was offered in person and online. We also held the Beverly Soule Scholarship Auditions Sunday, April 24. Four students registered. Winners will perform at the Teacher Showcase Recital.

We are looking forward to our virtual Teacher Showcase Recital on Saturday, May 14. Thanks to Wyatt Burger for chairing.

Dr. Grace Ho, gave a presentation following the business meeting on April 11, 2022 at the U of O, Berwick Hall. *Goya/Goyescas: The Transformation of Art into Music* was a multimedia lecture recital where she articulated and demonstrated the unique amalgamation of art and music through the works of Enrique Granados. How Granados and his generation sought to redefine Casticismo, or "genuine Spanishness," is at the center of the exploration and the art work of Francisco Goya is the impetus. Dr. Ho performed excerpts from Granados' Goyescas to demonstrate how Granados brought the Maja and Majo to life in his powerful and evocative musical portrayals, transferring folklore and visual imagery into the world of sound.

We hope to see everyone at the OMTA State Conference in June!

ROGUE VALLEY DISTRICT

Thor Polson, Rogue Valley District Reports Chair

On April 2, Linda Barker-Hayes gave a presentation on technique based on a survey of Friedrich Burgmüller's etudes (Op. 100, 105, and 109, all conveniently compiled in a single Schirmer edition). This was a very enjoyable and instructive presentation, and her approach to the subject on the basis of well-known etudes was particularly effective since we piano teachers often have burning (or at least smoldering) questions about various matters of technique.

Linda Barker-Hayes

Linda opened her talk by bringing up the technical "traps" that she encounters on a regular basis: heavy thumbs, chicken-wing elbows, stiff and pounding arms, the lack of dynamic contrast between hands, a typewriter attack, and the absence of slurring. Other areas of consideration included the emphasis on strong versus weak beats, slurring, hand rotation, crossing the thumb under the hand, arpeggios, chromatic scales, velocity, leggiero playing, creating long phrases, bridging wide intervals with the help of the arm, points of arrival, and the use of different rhythms to tackle difficult passages.

Rogue Valley District members in attendance

Linda concluded her presentation by playing two technically challenging pieces by Moritz Moszkowski. We thoroughly enjoyed hearing her insights and welcomed the opportunity to participate in an open discussion of challenges that our intermediate and advanced students regularly face as they learn new music. Thank you very much, Linda!

On May 9, our chapter member Catherine Darnall will offer a presentation entitled *Venturing into Wunderland, or Why Didn't I Offer This Sooner?* at Grace Lutheran Church in Ashland. Catherine is very passionate about introducing her students to the joys of composing as soon as she possibly can, and this promises to be a very interesting presentation. Our Sonatina Festival will take place on May 22, and the board meeting is scheduled on June 13. The school year is slowly winding down!

WEST PORTLAND DISTRICT

Elizabeth Caswell, NCTM
West Portland District President

Greetings from the West Portland District!

Like everyone around the state, we are in the full swing of spring activities from Spring Syllabus to Romantic Festival to the upcoming Concerto Festival.

Our Romantic Festival was held April 23-24 and April 30-May 1 in both in-person and pre-recorded formats. Many thanks to our participating teachers, and especially our Romantic Festival Co-Chairs, Diane Chaplin, Natalya Klimov, and Lifia Teguh!

We recently held our district meeting on April 25, featuring Dr. Lisa Neher who gave a presentation on *Theatre Tools for Musicians*, a workshop that explored movement and expression tools from the theatre tradition and how to apply those to the work we do as musicians and music teachers.

Our upcoming May meeting will be Wednesday, May 25 at 10:00 AM at Christ United Methodist Church with presenter Dr. Matt Cooper.

Winding up our season will be the Trula Whelan Concerto Festival on June 4!

Spring is a time of growth and renewal, and we are also preparing for change with the creation of the new Hillsboro Area District, which will be for teachers west of 185th Avenue on the Portland/Hillsboro side, and include the towns of Hillsboro, Forest Grove, Cornelius, Warren, St. Helens, and Aloha. We hope that many of our friends will be members of both our districts, as each has exciting opportunities on offer!

Best wishes for your spring activities!

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: 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
- Freely Licensed or Purchased Licensed
- Public Domain
- Fair Use

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

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Please send print-ready ads in TIFF, EPS, JPEG or PDF format to Caris Power or Robin Power: office@oregonmta.org. Ads must meet specifications listed below.

Half Single Column	$25	2.6" W x 4.375" H	300 ppi (no bleed)
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Half Page	$70	8.5" W x 5.5" H	300 ppi (no bleed)
Full Page	$140	8.5" W x 11" H	300 ppi (no bleed)

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

Music News
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