

General Membership Meeting Minutes  
Oregon Music Teachers Association  
Thursday, June 22, 2023 3:45 – 5:00 p.m.  
Oregon Music Teacher’s Association  
2128 Elysium Avenue, Eugene, Oregon 97401  
Location: Southern Oregon University, Ashland, Oregon

Attendance: in person 47

- I. Call to Order: 3:45
- II. Approval of Minutes from General Membership Meeting June 24, 2022: **Approved as corrected.**
- III. Approval of Agenda: **Approved**
- IV. Officers’ Reports:

A. President, Liz Willis.

Liz expressed her gratitude to her Executive Board and our Operations Bookkeeper (Cindy Peterson-Peart) for their support during the past months. Representing OMTA at the MTNA conference was a definite highlight of the year.

B. President Elect, Heidi Evans. Nothing to report.

C. Past President, Sarah Ball. Nothing to report.

D. Treasurer, Fern McArthur, read by Cindy Peterson Peart

Unrestricted Funds Checking Account	97,739
Savings Market Account	<u>16,192</u>
TOTAL	<b>113,931</b>
Designated funds:	
Music Link	<u>9,004</u>
Total funds for unrestricted use	<b>104,927</b>

Note: This balance is about \$20,000 higher than last year’s balance as of May 31, but many Conference bills are still outstanding. Also, I will receive in early July the State dues revenue for June, so the account balance should be consistent with previous years.

The budget for fiscal year 2023-2024 will be presented to the board in August.

Respectfully submitted,

Fern McArthur, NCTM, OMTA Treasurer

E. Restricted Funds Treasurer, Susan Todd

ACCOUNT BALANCE

As of May 31, 2023

Grant Account	\$ 56,610.81
Operations Account	\$ 13,710.27
Scholarship Account	\$ 359,005.30
Education Account	<u>\$ 268,771.00</u>
Total in Restricted Funds	<b>\$ 698,097.38</b>

Difference from May 2022:    +\$ 15,878.19

ACCOUNT ACTIVITY AND DETAIL

**Grant Account Activity**

Karen Huntsberger, NCTM reported that the program year for the grant is nearly finished. In May \$20,000 designated for conference expenses was transferred from the restricted funds to the general funds.

**Scholarship Fund Activity**

\$9,900 of \$16,900 available monies were awarded for competitive scholarships in May. Eight scholarships had no entrants. Members are encouraged to investigate available scholarship and grant options for their students.

**Education Fund Activity**

\$9,650 is available for two need-based scholarships, three teacher enrichment grants and Nellie Tholen grants available to EVERY district, per the OMTA Scholarship Commission. One teacher study grant has already been awarded, and many more are available.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan M. Todd, NCTM  
OMTA Restricted Funds Treasurer

The OMTA Scholarship Commission [Liz Willis, Susan Todd, Fern McArthur, Irene Huang, Leslie Chen, Pauline Eidemiller, Janet Pollack] met Tuesday, April 11, 2023.

Susan Todd, Restricted Funds Treasurer, reported Restricted Funds had an overall total \$722,119.50 as of March 31.

Recommendations:

- Ranges of amounts available for scholarships/grants be posted on the OMTA website.
- Nellie Tholen Workshop Grants be made available to all districts, including East Portland, West Portland and Hillsboro Area districts.

- Establish a District Technology Support Grant from the Education Fund. A sub-committee will need to write the grant requirements.  
Susan Todd, NCTM  
OMA Restricted Funds Treasurer

F. Secretary, Amie Belisle. No report.

## V. Standing Committees:

A. Certification, Anastasia Kitaev, read by Sarah Ball, co-chair.

Four members have recently completed their National Certification:

- Tatsiana Asheichyk (in piano through the projects route),
- Craig Hansen (double certification in piano and organ through Administrative Verification)
- Anna Danese (in piano through projects)
- Momoko Murumatsu (in piano through Administrative Verification)

We also have eleven members who have formally applied for National Certification and are actively working on their projects. Some others are starting their projects but have opted to wait before officially registering with MTNA. Several of our candidates are planning to start the process of becoming adjudicators for our syllabus program.

In terms of grants, we have awarded three in total so far. One grant came from East Portland District, and OMTA gave the other two.

Our Virtual Certification Coffee meetings are still going strong. These monthly gatherings provide a supportive environment for teachers pursuing NCTM status. We discuss various topics, answer questions, and share valuable resources.

We encourage all OMTA members to spread the word among teachers who may benefit from this program, and contact us with recommendations. We will follow up promptly.

The recent membership survey produced a list of 38 members who expressed interest in becoming nationally certified. We sent them a warm welcome letter, which included an explanation of the certification process, helpful resource links, and an invitation to join our Certification Coffee meetings.

Lastly, we now have an official email address for Certification inquiries and correspondence. If you need assistance or have any questions, please feel free to reach out to us at [certification@oregonmta.org](mailto:certification@oregonmta.org).

A. Competitions, Julia Lee, read by Susan Todd.

Two Oregon Students participated in the MTNA Competition in Reno.

Junior Winds - Seojeong Huh (OR) Clarinet, student of Hyeyoung Jeong

Young Artist Strings - Alfonso Keller-Casielles (OR) Violin, student of Anthea Kreston  
2023-2024 Competition will be Saturday, November 4, 2023 at Portland State University.

B. Conference, Heidi Evans. No report.

C. Education, Janet Pollack

**EDUCATION BOARD REPORT: June 2023**  
Submitted by, Dr. Janet Pollack, Education Chair

**Baroque Festival**

The 2023 Baroque Festival State Honors Recital was a “great success,” co-chaired by Craig Hanson and Momoko Muramatsu. The final event of the two-phase Baroque Festival took place on March 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> at the First Presbyterian Church of Newport. There were 74 students from 38 different teachers participating. Since the usual February date of the festival has offered ongoing challenges and weather concerns, it is being moved next year to the spring. The festival had a net gain of \$219.79.

**ESMAR**

Dr. Anne Young, Chair of ESMAR, reports a successful 2023 ESMAR event this year. Three students participated. At the end of the afternoon, the three performed in the beautiful hall at Willamette University. Dr. Crystal Zimmerman, the adjudicator, provided her Studio for the exam and then scheduled the students in the concert hall for the half hour recital. Dr. Zimmerman offered to schedule the event at WU again next year and possibly more.



It is suggested that the adjudicator fee for this festival be raised to \$60. Dr. Crystal Zimmerman not only provided her studio for the exam and the concert hall free of charge but spent at least an hour and a half per student for evaluation

**Composition Celebration**

The Composition Celebration, chaired by Dianne Davies, was a virtual recital in May this year and was made available on YouTube. New this year adjudicators recognized students at the district level with the most outstanding compositions as Honored Composers. These students were invited to advance to the OMTA State Composition Festival to share their works and hear the compositions of other student composers from all over Oregon. The 2023 YouTube recital is now available on the OMTA web site.

**Sonatina Festival**

Preparations for the fall 2023 Sonatina Festival are moving forward. It is scheduled for Saturday, October 14 from noon-5:00 pm in the Frohmayer Music Building on the campus of the University of Oregon. All documents have been updated and revised and are on the OMTA web site. Dr. Janet Pollack and Marla

Hansen are co-chairing the event. Volunteers will be needed the day of the event, so if you are able and willing to help, please contact me at [janetkippollack@comcast.net](mailto:janetkippollack@comcast.net) or text/call 970-556-3729.

### Ensemble Festival

The State Ensemble Festival Honors Recital took place on December 10, 2022 at the University of Oregon in Eugene, co-chaired by Dr. Genevieve Mason and Dr. Janet Pollack. The university proved to be an excellent venue with two beautiful grand pianos and convenient parking with easy access to the hall. Due to the large number of students participating, it was necessary to hold two consecutive recitals with a brief celebration in between. Both events went smoothly. There were 57 students in all with ensembles varying from piano duets to piano duos to even piano with cello. Medals engraved with “OMTA Ensemble Honors 2022” and certificates of excellence were awarded to all students invited to perform. Following both recitals refreshments were served in the lobby.

year	Revenue/Income 2022 -2023		Expenses 2022-2023	
	last year	current year	last year	current
<b>BAROQUE</b> <b>Co-Chairs:</b> <b>Craig Hanson</b> <b>and Momoko</b> <b>Muramatsu</b> February 25, 2023	\$1 55 0. (+ \$7 33. 87 )	\$1 63 0	\$816.13	\$1410.21
<b>COMPOSITIO</b> <b>N</b> <b>Chair: Dianne</b> <b>Davies</b> May 2023	\$1 92. (+ \$2 4.4 7)	?	\$167.53	?
<b>ENSEMBLE</b> <b>Co-Chairs:</b> <b>Dr. Genevieve</b> <b>Mason and</b> <b>DR. Janet</b> <b>Pollack</b> Dec 10, 2022	Pos tpon ed	\$1, 16 0.0 0	N/A	\$1105.84 (+54.16)
<b>ESMAR</b> <b>Chair: Dr.</b> <b>Anne D. Young</b>	\$3 90. (- \$9 5)	?	\$485?	?
<b>SONATINA</b> <b>Co-Chairs:</b> <b>Marla Hansen</b> <b>and Dr. Janet</b> <b>Pollack</b>	Pos tpon ed Un til fal	N/ A	Postponed until Fall 2023	N/A

	1 20 23				
<b>TOTALS</b>	+\$ 3,6 87.			\$2,138.55	

*Respectfully submitted on 6/2/2023,  
Dr. Janet Pollack*

- D. Finance, Fern McArthur, no change from Treasurer report.
- E. Marketing, Chiharu Sai
- F. Membership, Andy D’Antonio. Membership reports from every June 2017 show that OMTA lost 100 members over the past 5 years. Statewide survey why, what imp, how involved. See Music News, q district pres. Membership has been more stable since 2021. Percentage of NCTM’s seem to remain totally stable on its own.
- G. Parliamentarian, Kathy Gault. No report.
- H. Public Relations, Kristy Moore, new chair
- I. Publications Need an editor for Music News as Luna Thompson-Aue resigned.
- J. Syllabus, Barbara Roberts. Back to in-person with a new virtual district established. Syllabus info and forms online have been updated.

VI. Special Committees

- A. Composer of the Year, Lisa Marsh – committee members of Paul Safar, Amy Fairchild, and Lisa nominated Todd Marsten as Composer of the Year for 2024 . His piece will be performed at the 2024 OMTA conference.

VII. New Business – none.

VIII. District Reports

- A. Blue Mountain, Kathy Gault

B. Central Oregon, Melissa Barker for Janet Smith

C. East Portland, Andy D'Antonio

D. Eugene, Nicholas Rieser.

## **June 2023 Eugene/Springfield OMTA District**

**Membership** - we increased our connection to new members through a program of more personal and consistent outreach carried out by our immediate Past President, Genevieve Mason. We will evaluate our effectiveness this summer. We also have gained student members in the UO collegiate chapter started by our Vice President, Dr. Grace Ho, who is on the faculty. We are hoping to convert student members who remain in our area to regular membership after graduation. We are also looking at strategies to get local nonmember teachers to join.

**Meetings and Programs** - These have been held in two locations - the same church as we used for many years before the pandemic, and UO facilities for the joint presentations with UO pedagogy classes, which is new. We have been using a Zoom option for the live business meetings, but we will continue to look for strategies to increase attendance.

Our wide-ranging program topics this year have included repertoire diversity, pedagogical technique, teaching neurodiverse students, and a very well-received hands-on session with Dr. Martha Hilley in the UO keyboard lab.

**Events** (briefly) - attendance generally is definitely up from the pandemic years. We hosted a very successful State Ensemble Festival. We are looking for a way to re-establish a spirited favorite holiday program and Barnes and Noble, which we turned into a regular recital (albeit a very successful one) when Barnes and Noble changed its benefit remuneration plan.

**Website** - This summer we are going to convert our website, probably to Squarespace. We want the website to make event chairing a more satisfying experience and to promote our teachers and events more effectively.

Nick Rieser  
Eugene/Springfield OMTA District President

E. Hillsboro, Holly Counts.

OMTA Annual Membership Meeting  
June 22, 2023  
Ashland, OR

This year in Hillsboro Area District -  
36 Charter Members  
1 New Website  
5 District Meetings  
Dozens of Teaching Tips  
18 Recitals  
1 New Festival  
3 Performance Venues  
170 Syllabus Participants  
20 Syllabus Days

We have had a busy fall as a new district, starting off with an in-person meeting and a virtual presentation by Dr. Lark Powers, entitled, "Practice Smarter, Not Longer." Her fabulous talk gave us a lot of food for thought going into the new teaching year. Our October Westside Recital included a record number of student participants, prompting us to need dual locations and overlapping times. At our November meeting, we had helpful discussion about how to handle these recitals going forward, as we experience the growing pains of a new district. Our fall syllabus also had strong participation, and teachers agreed that many students were nervous about going back to in person exams.

Our third annual Ribbon Festival, in February, was a big hit. Teachers and students alike enjoyed the addition of musically themed artwork.

This spring included two Nellie Tholen Grant Presentations, including Dr. Dianne Davies sharing ways to make syllabus skills relevant, and Dr. Ricardo de la Torre, sharing repertoire by Mexican composers. Both were inspirational! Since we didn't have a meeting scheduled between April and June, we had an informal meet up at a coffee shop in May, which was a nice way to chat and share how we were doing. There has been discussion of adding these coffee meet ups in the summer and throughout the year as a way to encourage community among our teachers. We had our first Hillsboro Period Festival in April, spread over two days, one in Hillsboro and one in Forest Grove. Molly Wheeler was our wonderful adjudicator. We had a committee of three teachers who worked together to plan this inaugural festival. We used Leggiero for registration. For next year, we may look at moving the time of year to encourage more participation.

Our end of the year brunch was a big success, and an enjoyable time of fellowship, discussion about next year, and playing favorite teaching pieces for each other. We had 11 teachers attend. Typical in person attendance has been 9-12 for each meeting, about a third of our district.

On to year number two for the Hillsboro Area District!



Respectfully Submitted,  
Holly Counts, Hillsboro Area MTA President

F. Lincoln County, no report

G. Linn Benton, Lucy Watts for Rosanne Smith

H. Mid-Columbia – no report

I. Rogue Valley, Terri Horn

J. Salem, no report

K. Tualatin Valley, Auksuole

Members of the Tualatin Valley district have enjoyed engaging with each other and participating in presentations, festivals, and syllabus. We feel blessed to have 72 members who help our district thrive.

This spring, our district meetings included a teacher recital and three amazing zoom presentations by Heidi Evans, Dr. Lark Powers and Selina Manson. Our members also enjoyed our monthly “Play, Listen, Teach, Learn” teacher development class.

Relative to district festivals, our Baroque festival was held in January with 16 teachers entering a total of 54 students. In February, our Composition festival was held with 16 student entries. We had lower division syllabus at the beginning of March with 22 teachers participating and 69 students registered. Additionally, we had upper division syllabus in April with 17 teachers participating and 44 students registered. And finally, on April 30th, we had the Sacred Music Recital, which is held once every three years. We had 3 teachers register a total of 10 students, ranging in age from 8 to 18.

At the end of April, we awarded our district scholarship to Cate Hoffman. Cate has studied with Linda Rodgers for 10 years, and is a “dream student,” according to Linda. Cate will study music at U of O.

We are excited for our new board that was voted in on May 12th:

Auksuole Jackunaite – Co-President  
Karen Huntsberger – Co-President  
Teresa Sealey – Immediate Past President  
Deanna Peabody – Secretary  
Kristen Cichoski – Treasurer

Karen Huntsberger was also awarded the Honorary Lifetime member through OMTA at our final district meeting in May. She is such a blessing to both students and colleagues.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristen Cichoski, Tualatin Valley District President (2021-2023)

L. Umatilla Morrow, Kathy Gault for Sarah Milburne

M. Umpqua Valley South Coast, Tammy Johnson

N. West Portland, Liz Caswell

IX. Announcements

A. MTNA Conference – 3/17-20/2024 Atlanta, GA

B. OMTA State Conference – July Portland, TBA

C. Announcements from the Floor

- a. Debra Sostrin, re: donated music from Mary Kogan estate and Rogue Valley District for conference attendees to peruse and make a donation.
- b. Chiharu Sai announced her piano trio concert at 1<sup>st</sup> United Methodist Church on July 12 at 7:30 p.m.

X. Meeting Adjourned 5:00 pm