

# OMTA Music News

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## News from the Rocky Mountains

Oregon had a small but enthusiastic contingent at the National MTNA Conference, March 29–April 3. A highlight of course was the thrilling performance of pianist Lang Lang, who captivated a sold-out house with his interpretations of Mozart and Liszt as well as six delightful traditional Chinese works.

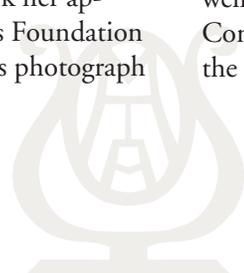
Conference attendees had many options for teacher training, meeting colleagues and enjoying excellent music in the vivid, beautiful city of Denver. I heartily encourage you to mark your calendars and plan now to attend the March 28–April 1, 2009 Atlanta Conference, or if you really want to plan ahead, pencil in mid-March 2010 for a visit to Albuquerque, New Mexico. Whether you come to glean new teaching energy and ideas, hear marvelous student performances, observe master classes and performances by renowned artists, or just enjoy the camaraderie of the wonderful teachers of MTNA, this event is well worth your time and expense—and it is tax-deductible!

At the Foundation Fund Gala our own Virginia Hawley Buhn, NCTM was presented with a plaque and pin to mark her appointment as Oregon's Foundation Fund Fellow. Virginia's photograph

and biography were included in a book featuring all the new Foundation Fellows. The Oregon contingent shared a table with teachers from Indiana, and enjoyed the lovely tulip-graced table settings, great music by the John Williams Swing Band, and an excellent dinner. When Virginia returned to her room, she was pleasantly surprised with flowers from OMTA. We are so pleased that Virginia received this honor.

The Foundation Fellow nomination program will continue in Oregon under the guidance of Robyn Pfeifer, NCTM. Our current nominee is Mary T. Hulme, NCTM. Monies donated to the Foundation benefit the teachers and students of MTNA through their study grant programs. When you renew your dues, please consider a Foundation donation, but do be sure to indicate that it is for Mary Hulme. (Please see the article on Page 4.) Donations can also be sent to our State Treasurer, Fern MacArthur, NCTM, and should be made to OMTA, with Mary Hulme's name on the memo line.

The Northwest Division was well represented at the MTNA Competition. A complete list of the winners is ready for you to view



*(Continued on page 2)*

on the MTNA Web site. Oregon's composition students Edison Tsai, Junior Division (student of Gary Noland) and Keith Buncke, Senior Division (student of Jeffrey Payne) both won Second Place honors. I encourage you to consider entering students in the MTNA Competitions, and to help Robyn Pfeifer with the Oregon State Competition this October, whether or not you enter students. You will learn so much just by attending. The NW Division Competition will be held January 16–18, 2009 in Spokane, Washington.

On a practical note, we have excellent news from our Executive Director and CEO, Gary Ingle. He reported that MTNA

has negotiated with Educators Insurance Program to offer our membership access to group rates for insurance. There are thirteen insurance products available, including Professional Liability Insurance, Group Disability Income Protection and Comprehensive Health Insurance. While MTNA has had some insurance access in the past, this is the first time MTNA is able to offer comprehensive health. Full details are available now by calling Forest T. Jones & Company at (800) 821-7303. The FTJ Web site, [www.ftj.com](http://www.ftj.com), does not currently include the MTNA link, but that will be available soon.

*Susan M. Todd, NCTM*  
President Elect

## THEIS PIANO SERVICE

Milwaukie, Oregon

I have recently moved to Portland after 35 years of service in San Francisco. My business is dedicated to skilled, longtime piano maintenance by first treating the whole instrument (moisture control, hammer reshaping, regulation, etc.) so that it can absorb a really stable tuning and voicing. Minimal touchup at tuning time keeps it "on the cutting edge."

While most of my piano work has been for professional level players, I do welcome student referrals. Most of these jobs are fairly inexpensive (usually hammer reshape, voicing, tuning, maybe some regulation) but produce a greatly improved and stable piano, thus making teaching efforts much more productive. A well-tuned and voiced piano is certainly a critical part of a piano student's ear training.

For appointment, please call  
**Ray Theis**  
503-653-1415

# President's Corner

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Dear Colleagues,

This will be my last President's Corner so it is the perfect time to express to all of you my appreciation for the opportunity to serve this amazing organization. Representing OMTA has been one those "experiences of a lifetime." I have learned so much, had some wonderful times and, most of all, enjoyed meeting so many of you through the various district visits, events and conferences.

But, although I had the title, I didn't do the work. There are 15 "Umbrella Chairs." They oversee every festival, competition, examination and event. They tend to the business end of the organization; keeping our finances in order, membership records up to date, and oversee such important areas as certification, marketing, public relations and the many publications: the Directory, the *Music News* and the occasional Oregon Musician. And, working under the "umbrellas" are 34 chairs who do the organizing and "on the scene" work for these categories. Nothing would have happened in OMTA these past two years if it hadn't been for those hard working members. Thank you, all, from all of OMTA. And,

thank you to those of you who work at the district level to make the events happen and run smoothly.

And, of course, helping with the heavy lifting and providing much needed guidance and advice was the Executive Committee—four members without whom I could never have survived the term. Please take a look at the back pages of this issue where you'll find the names of all those who have kept your organization running these past two years. And, when you see them, say THANK YOU.

Kudos are also due to our support secretary, Ed Davie. He keeps the records of membership, festivals and dues and does many other support jobs. And, as all of you who work with him know, he's available almost 24/7 with an answer to any question practically moments after it is sent, always in a cheerful, helpful way. Thank you, Ed.

I look forward to seeing you at the Conference in July. In the meantime, I wish you all a successful spring in all of your musical activities.

Warm regards,

*Gloria Dakin*, NCTM  
President, OMTA

# State News *Board of Directors*

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*Myrna Elmore, NCTM*  
OMTA State Secretary



## OMTA STATE BOARD MEETING

At the OMTA State Board Meeting, held in Portland, Oregon on February 23, 2008, it was moved, seconded and passed that:

- The request from the Syllabus Committee for additional funds in the amount of \$500 go to the Roberta Davie Scholarship Fund in appreciation for the use of Ed Davie's Adjudicator Student Evaluation Forms.
- The request from the Publications Committee for additional funds in the amount of \$350 be approved for new publicity photos to be used for new brochures, the Web page, school outreach and other publicity.
- Mary Hulme be nominated as an OMTA Foundation Fellow.
- OMTA will support the efforts of the Pendleton Community Concert Association to present the MTNA Oregon winners in a concert during the 2008–2009 Season. 

***Volunteers Needed***  
**For organizing & running**  
**MTNA Competition**

**When: October 25, 2008**  
***Lewis & Clark College***

***Interested? Need to more information?***  
***Call/Email: Robyn Pfeifer, NCTM***

**503-287-5028**  
**[robyn@pianowerks.com](mailto:robyn@pianowerks.com)**



# State News *MTNA Foundation*

*Robyn Pfeifer, NCTM*  
Foundation Fund Chairperson

MARY HULME, NCTM  
NOMINATED AS 2008 FOUNDATION FELLOW  
This year the Foundation Fellow nominated by the OMTA board is Mary Hulme, NCTM. This special program through the Foundation Fund offers a meaningful way to honor individuals who have made a significant contribution to music and the music teaching profession. This Fellow distinction is bestowed by peers.

In order to designate a Fellow, the OMTA chapter must make a contribution of \$1,000 or more in the honoree's name. Mary has earned this prestigious nomination as a Foundation Fellow for her many outstanding contributions to the OMTA and the music community. She has been teaching students since she was in high school, then went on to receive her Bachelors in Music from Lewis & Clark College.

Mary has been a teacher and member of the MTNA for over 30 years and held numerous board member positions, including State President of OMTA and Northwest Division President of MTNA. She has served on the MTNA Board of Directors and has been a nationally certified teacher of music and an active adjudicator since 1984. Mary also spent four years as Syllabus Chair, has been the Music Link Coordinator for the last ten years, and is the current OMTA Public Relations Chair. This just a small sample of the many contributions Mary has made to music and the music teaching profession.

OMTA would like to thank Mary by raising the funds to name her a Foundation Fellow. Our goal for this year's Foundation fund raising is to raise a minimum of \$1,300 at the State Conference this July in Portland. We will have both a raffle and silent auction of a great number of items to encourage more people to find that special item they just can't wait to bid on and take home. Auction goods will include musical items for your studio as well as many other intriguing items on everyone's must have list. As mentioned on page 1, you can send a Foundation donation directly to our State Treasurer,

Fern MacArthur. The check should be made to OMTA with Mary Hulme's name on the memo line. Or, when you renew your dues, there is a place to make a Foundation donation. Please indicate that it is for Mary Hulme. Thank you. 

*It's fundraising time!*

Foundation Chair  
needs fairy  
assistants to  
help call business  
for donations to  
the 2008 annual  
auction

*Interested? Need to more  
information?*  
Call/Email:  
**Robyn Pfeifer, NCTM**  
503-287-5028  
[robyn@pianowerks.com](mailto:robyn@pianowerks.com)



# State News *Syllabus*

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*Liz Willis, NCTM &  
Cherise da Cunha, NCTM  
State Syllabus Co-Chairs*



Spring Syllabus is now in full swing, with our students having the opportunity to share the results of their diligent effort with their adjudicators. Again, there is a robust participation this year. Thanks to all of you that have returned your evaluations in! Please remember to send these soon after your experience, within a few weeks please.

Perhaps on the evaluations this year, you all could additionally share your thoughts on the new form that the adjudicators are using for evaluation.

It is with great pleasure to note that Voice Syllabus is returning this year in Portland. It will be held on May 3rd at Calvin Presbyterian Church, with Charline Gebhardt adjudicating. Eugenia Enslow is the District Chair, and she may be contacted at 503-642-1677 for more information.

Syllabus District Chairs, please mark Wednesday, July 16th on your calendar. It is the annual meeting of the Syllabus Advisory Committee during our Annual Conference. Please plan on attending or sending a representative that can report back to your district.

And now, the Coda: Always print out the current forms from the Web site for each syllabus season, and please re-read the "Syllabus Instructions for Teachers" each season. We are constantly "tweaking" the forms and instructions for clarification, and it is vital that the current forms are used by everyone.

Best wishes for a happy and successful experience for you and your students this spring. 

*Claudia Hegberg  
Level X Recital Chair*



## LEVEL X STATE RECITAL

These recitals will always be the first Sunday in June and this year will be June 1, 2008 at Sherman and Clay in Downtown Portland. The recitals will be from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m., 2:30 to 3:30 and 4:00 to 5:00. You and

your student may choose the piece (from the Level X repertoire played and no longer than 7 minutes). To participate, please mail details to Claudia Hegberg by May 19. 

*Ruth Sadilek  
District String Syllabus Chair*



## STRING SYLLABUS IN PORTLAND

Portland District will be holding annual String Syllabus exams again this spring on Saturday, May 17. Although this issue of *Music News* may get to you after the deadline for applications—Saturday, April 12, you might find the existence of a Spring Syllabus to be of future interest.

If you are interested in the String Syllabus program for your area, please phone Ruth for further information: 503-449-0010.

Please send all forms and fees to:  
Ruth Sadilek



# State News *Certification*

*Cathy Thoma, NCTM  
Certification Chair*



As I prepare to write this final column as Certification Chair for the state of Oregon, a lot of things run through my mind about what to impart and what you might want to hear. Throughout the past 10 years serving as your chair and as a committee member, I have talked to those who feel that numbers are important in showing the success of an organization. While the objective of my position is to certify members, there is more to this job than “How many?”

I have taught music for 28 years. That means a total of 10,200 days, minus 2,912 Saturday and Sundays, which equals 7,288 days. At 5 days a week for 8 hours a day, it puts me at 2 million, 889 thousand, 600 minutes.

In the time span that I have been teaching, I have served as the Certification Chair or as a member of the committee for 10 years. In that time I have attended approximately 34 Board meetings and 7 State Conferences, administered approximately 37 National Certification exams and mentored approximately 107 people through State and National Certification program.

But what do numbers really mean? What do numbers tell us about the teachers and students we work with?

Do any of those numbers tell you about the teacher I worked with from the Umatilla-Morrow District who decided that working toward becoming Nationally certified was going to be one of her life goals? She methodically worked through each step, fulfilling college credits, performance requirements, and examinations. At the age of 71 she received her State and National certification. Why? Because she thought it was an important step to bettering herself as a musician and teacher.

Do the numbers tell of the endless hours of commitment our officers have given at both the local and state level to educate our members and to make music opportunities more accessible to students?

Do they tell of the teacher, who at age 82 was still teaching, still passionate about music and her students? Or of the young teacher with a family, trying to hold everything together and teach because of her newfound love of teaching?

Do they reflect the commitment of Roma Eicher as she shared her love of music to the last days of her life?

So you see, it is not for the numbers that I served as your Certification Chair, nor is it for the numbers that I teach. My “job” is to build awareness of what it really means to have the responsibility of being a good teacher—I mean, a really good teacher, the kind of teacher that the people I mentioned above are and were. It goes far beyond numbers and striving for perfection in music. Our responsibility, really, is to be aware of each other as teachers and to be aware of each of our students as individuals moving on this path we call life. We don’t always know everyone’s full story, but we should work to know them. We are here as teachers to build a love for music as part of people’s lives. I believe that is what my job has been: to inspire teachers to work hard toward expanding their love and knowledge of music for the benefit of their students and themselves.

I thank each of you for supporting me along the way. It has been a privilege to serve you as your Certification Chair. 



# State News *Conference*

Susan M. Todd, NCTM  
2008 OMTA Conference Chair



## OMTA CONFERENCE UPDATE

Thanks to funds available from the Nellie Tholen Grant, I am pleased to announce that in addition to our very important Syllabus, Board, and General Membership meetings, we will have a short program during the course of our 2008 OMTA Conference. You will not want to miss the dynamic and inspiring Julianne Miranda, Chief Information Officer for MTNA, as she presents “The Role of Experience, Imagery and Self-Talk in Shaping Peak

Performance” on the morning of July 17. A delicious luncheon at the Oregon Zoo is planned for the 17th, followed by a reception honoring Oregon Music Link students as they debut a CD recording of their work. An activity for Wednesday evening, July 16, is still in the works. As soon as the details are finalized, you will receive a notice and the registration form will be available on the Web site. 

## Composition Lessons

Mary Wright, PhD

through **Pfeifer PianoWerks Studio**

(All instruments welcome)



Mary C. Wright is a composer and sound artist. She was born in Cleveland, Ohio. She holds degrees in composition from Princeton University (M.F.A., Ph.D.), the California Institute of the Arts (M.F.A.) and in music theory from Cleveland Institute of Music (B.M.).

### Sound installations and multimedia projects:

Ms. Wright's music has been performed by the Kronos String Quartet, the California Ear Unit, Bang On A Can All-Stars, New York New Music Ensemble, and the San Francisco Contemporary Music Players. She has received commissions from the MIT Symphony Orchestra, American Composers Forum, Fromm Foundation at Harvard University, the Meet the Composer/Readers Digest Commissioning Program in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts and the Lila Wallace Readers Digest Fund, and ASCAP/Bang On A Can (In Memory of John Cage). She has received awards from the International League of Women Composers, ASCAP (Young Composers Award), and the first Margaret Blackburn Memorial Competition.

For more information about lessons call the  
PianoWerks Studio at 503-287-5028 or email

[comp@pianowerks.com](mailto:comp@pianowerks.com)

[www.pianowerks.com](http://www.pianowerks.com)

*Jazz arranging & composition also available!*



*Pamela Miller, NCTM*  
OMTA Education Chair



## GRANTS AVAILABLE

There are several educational grants available to OMTA teachers and their students. Application forms and information concerning the requirements are available on the OMTA Web site. Applications must be submitted by mail on or before May 31.

### *For OMTA members*

**FRANCES AND CONSTANCE BITTNER MEMORIAL GRANT**  
This grant will be awarded to help offset the expense of attending a pedagogical conference/workshop. The amount requested should not exceed 50 percent of the total cost.

### **ROBERTA DAVIE COMPOSITION STUDY GRANT**

The purpose of this fund is to encourage private teachers to include and integrate the study of composition in their studios. A grant is available for study or for workshops.

### **ALBERT NAKATA MEMORIAL STUDY GRANT**

This grant is given to help with the expense of continuing education. It may be used for college courses or for private lessons.

### *For students of OMTA members*

#### **JAME THOMAS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD**

This grant is available for dedicated students who need financial assistance in order to continue their study with an OMTA teacher.

## THE PIANO CONNECTION

*A Music Teacher Founded Service  
Assisting Buyers and Sellers of Pianos*

Dear Colleagues,

I'd like to introduce my service called The Piano Connection. Founded in 2001 in response to limitations of the retail market, this service assists piano buyers and sellers predominantly on the private market. As an independent consultant, I am also able to help students competitively navigate retail sales if desired. *I offer a no-fee search service for buyers* and individualized consignment plans for sellers. I've been fortunate to assist some of the Northwest's top instructors find instruments. When instructors lack time to shop with students, I help students identify instruments that meet the teachers' criteria. *Appreciation for teacher referrals is generously acknowledged with a finder's reward check!*

If you know someone buying/selling a piano, please ask them to contact me. My service now covers both Washington and Oregon, the latter a rich source of instruments that continues to attract Washington music teachers.

I invite you to explore the range of services detailed on my website [www.thepianoconnection.com](http://www.thepianoconnection.com). You may enjoy reading the Success Stories and Teachers' pages.

I look forward to hearing from you!

Esther Warkov, Ph.D  
971.255.0388  
[esther\\_warkov@comcast.net](mailto:esther_warkov@comcast.net)  
[www.thepianoconnection.com](http://www.thepianoconnection.com)



### *For OMTA Districts*

**NELLIE THOLEN ENDOWMENT FUND GRANTS**  
Available to districts to assist with expenses for projects designed for teacher improvement. Applications, which are on the OMTA Web site, should be mailed to Pamela Miller, Education Chairman. They must be postmarked by July 10.

A new OMTA Roster of Programs/Recital/Workshops will be distributed to the president of each district in April. 

# State News *Composer of the Year 2009*

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*Jill Hickenlooper, NCTM*  
*Composer of the Year Search*



Oregon Music Teachers Association is still seeking a new OMTA Composer of the Year for 2009. Applications are available online at the OMTA Web site and are due in June 2008. The announcement of our next commissioned composer will be made at the OMTA Conference this summer and the commissioned work will be premiered at the 2009 OMTA Conference.

### *Quick Facts*

- The mission of the OMTA/MTNA Composer Commissioning Program is to encourage the creation of new works by American composers.
- OMTA takes full advantage of \$750 offered by MTNA for a total commission amount of \$1,500.
- The composer does not need to be a member of MTNA or to reside in the state in which commissioned.
- More than 30 states participated in the program last year.
- After each state has submitted its commissioned work and composer, MTNA chooses one to honor as the MTNA-Shepherd Distinguished Composer of the Year, and the new work is presented in a performance at the following MTNA National Convention.
- The MTNA-Shepherd Distinguished Composer of the Year also receives a check for \$3000, generously funded by Dr. Sylvia Shepherd, MTNA member from California.
- You can get more information on the Composer Commissioning Program on the MTNA Web site, [www.mtna.org](http://www.mtna.org), and by contacting National MTNA Composer Commissioning Chair.
- Oregon's next commissioned composer will be announced at the 2008 Conference. The work will be premiered at the 2009 Conference.

For more information concerning Oregon's next commission, contact:

Jill Hickenlooper, NCTM  
541-327-2011  
[Jillstudio@aol.com](mailto:Jillstudio@aol.com)



# State News *Membership*

Barbara Gustafson-Rice, NCTM  
OMTA State Membership Chair



## Welcome New Members *May/June 2008*

**Central Oregon District**  
Gladden, Matthew  
*Piano*



**Linn-Benton District**  
Recek, Andrea  
*Piano*



**Mid-Columbia District**  
Golding, Teresa (provisional)  
*Piano*



**Portland District**  
Edwards, Tracy (provisional)  
*Piano*

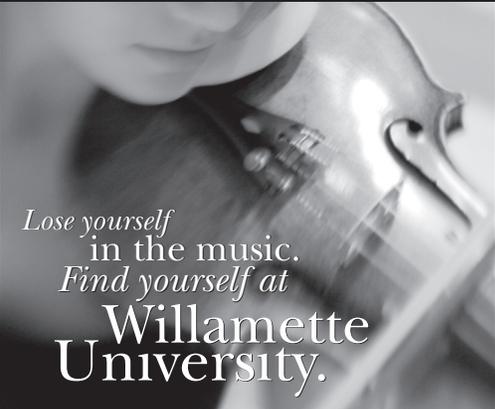
Krieger, William (provisional)  
*Piano*

Weiss, David (provisional)  
*Piano*



**Salem District**  
Butler, Bethany (student)  
*Piano*

WILLAMETTE UNIVERSITY  
Department of Music



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in the music.  
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BM in Composition	January 24, 2009
BM in Performance	February 16, 2009
BM in Music Education	February 16, 2009
Minor in Music	<b>Schedule an audition:</b>
Minor in Arts & Technology	503-370-6687

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# District News *Eugene*

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*Virginia Buhn, NCTM*  
Corresponding Secretary



Members of Eugene District have enjoyed a wide variety of programs during the winter months. Following the January meeting we watched with great interest the film “Memories of John Browning: The Lehvinne Legacy Continues.” The next month Virginia Buhn shared ideas on the topic “Style and Interpretation for the Young Pianist.” The March program featured Dr. Hui-Ying Lui-Tawaststjerna, Chair of the Piano Department of the Sibelius Academy in Finland, who was visiting the University of Oregon. She talked about her research into Rachmaninoff’s interpretation of his famous Prelude in C# Minor. In the coming months we look forward “Keys to Playing Romantic Music” with Barbara Parker as guest presenter and an annual breakfast meeting with the opportunity to exchange ideas and make plans for the coming year.

The final event will be an informal potluck at the home of Claire Wachter, with spouses and friends invited. Members

will be eager to express their appreciation to President Carolyn McHan and Vice-President/Program Chairman Marti Csonka for an outstanding year.

Students and their families have also have been busy with OMTA activities. Four recitals were held for the District Bach Festival, with Christy Matheson serving as chairman. Eugene hosted the Regional Event with two beautiful recitals arranged by Mary Ann Guenther and Fern McArthur. Wyatt Burger organized the Composition Celebration with Gary Noland as adjudicator. More than 100 students are expected to take part in the Spring Festival to be held at the Hult Center. Theme for the festival is “Music Around the World,” with Carol White coordinating the event. The month of May will bring adjudicators to Eugene for Spring Syllabus Evaluations. We are fortunate to have Lucy Clevenger serve as our new syllabus chairman. 



# District News *Lincoln County*

*Sarah Barker Ball*  
District President



Our Bach Festival was on track again this year, with Dr. Jeannine Jordan as our capable adjudicator. Dr. Jordan is an organist living in Lincoln City, and recently joined our group.

During March of 2008, Lincoln County OMTA District held its 20th annual Ribbon Festival. The enthusiasm was palpable as more than a hundred students performed their solos, ensembles, and original compositions and received brightly colored fair-style ribbons as a reward. They performed on several different instruments

including piano, guitar, flute, cello, voice and electric bass. Special featured program: Tien Hsieh, pianist, gave an informal, inspirational talk and demonstration of her upcoming Carnegie Hall repertoire.

We regret to report that our dear friend and colleague Suzanne Brown recently passed away. She finally succumbed to cancer after a lengthy struggle. Fortunately, she was able to continue teaching and participate in events until the end. She will be dearly missed. 

## *Attention -Teachers and Students!*

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No calls, please!

Stop by, pull up a chair, and have fun going through  
the stacks and stacks of music!

We're open 7 days a week:  
Monday through Saturday, 9-6; Sunday Noon-5.

# District News *Rogue Valley*

*Kate Campbell*  
District Secretary



## ATTENTION MUSICOPHILES!

Are you a fan of flutes? Perhaps 19th century chamber music with cello and violin is your secret love? Or maybe you ache for a live rendition of Schubert's haunting song cycle for baritone and piano. How often have you had a chance to attend a world premiere of brand new, locally produced chamber music? Or heard high-schoolers perform in their own string quartets or piano trios?

On April 12th and 13th you will have an opportunity to indulge.

A now annual fund raiser concert, sponsored by the Rogue Valley Chapter of the Oregon Music Teachers Association, is being held to benefit the Julia Frantz Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship is targeted for a high school senior each year who plans to study music after graduation. The first recipient, in 2007, was Erika Stempel from GPHS, who has now gone on to study music at Willamette University.

All proceeds of these concerts go to the Julia Frantz Memorial Scholarship. Julia Frantz was an active member and a vital part of the entire music community in Grants Pass—a beloved piano teacher with many award-winning students, including adults, who can still recall the encourage-

ment and confidence she instilled. She served on the state board of OMTA and held many positions with the local Rogue Valley District. (By the way, OMTA has had a chapter here in the Rogue Valley for over 50 years.) Julia was a charter member of Sweet Adelines, sang in the Bethany Presbyterian choir, and was the pianist for Eastern Star and her P.E.O. chapter. She was a member of the board of the Rogue Valley Symphony and Friends of the Symphony and was especially involved in their program to offer complimentary concert tickets to interested students.

The world premiere coming up will feature an ensemble piece by Medford composer I'ana S. Cotton and commissioned by OMTA for this event. This intricate and very listenable work involves five people at three keyboards, plus violin and cello. Ms. Cotton roots this music in a combination of two ancient Greek modes. The performers are all area piano teachers plus two string players.

The concert on April 12 will be at 3:00 p.m. at the Jacksonville Library. A slightly different program will be presented on April 13 at Bethany Presbyterian Church in Grants Pass, also at 3:00 p.m. Admission is by donation. Hope to see you there! 

*Rogue Valley district is busily working towards our concerts in April. We would love it if any of you from other districts would come along to enjoy the music. If you love playing works for many keyboards, with or without live strings and flute, you can e-mail composer/member I'ana Cotton at [icotton@notimemusic.com](mailto:icotton@notimemusic.com) for information.*



## District News *Roseburg*

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*Marti Magnussen*  
District Secretary



Carol White was the adjudicator at our Roseburg District Junior Bach Festival held at the Douglas Country Library in Roseburg on February 2, 2008. We had an excellent turnout with eight students participating in the non-competitive and also eight students playing in the competitive performances.

Jaron Cannon, student of Virginia Young, played Sonata in D by Scarlatti and was chosen to play in the February 17th Regional Recital. Also chosen was Rebekah Wagner, student of Charlotte McLaughlin, playing Prelude and Fugue in D by Bach. Becky Husen, student of Jean Melo, received Honorable Mention playing Fugue in G Major by Bach.

On March 1st our district sponsored a workshop and a lecture by Dr. Claire Wachter on how piano was taught in the 19th century, with excerpts from the writings of Frederick Wieck, Oliver Ditson, and Lech-etisky. Dr. Wachter indicated that more emphasis was placed on training the ear than it is now. She invited several students under the age of ten to play for her and gave the children instructive suggestions on how to improve timing, dynamics, tempos, etc.

I see by my *Music News* publication date notice, this will be the last article until next September. I hope we all have a wonderful and relaxing summer. See you in the fall. 

## District News *Tualatin Valley*

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*Susan Marandas*  
District Secretary



As always, our district has been involved in many musical activities. During a winter morning in January, we shared snacks and fellowship by revisiting history and famous piano performances by viewing "The History of the Pianoforte: A Documentary in Sound." In February Dr. Susan Chan, from Portland State, provided a multimedia presentation of "Selected Chopin Preludes from Op. 28, as inspired by Alfred Cortot." She continued her multimedia demonstration with Bach/Busoni's Chaconne in D Minor. She explained how she researched and developed her program, allowed us to sit on stage near the piano while she performed, and afterwards answered our questions. She was both informative and motivational. In March we held our Annual Teacher's Recital at Janet Weber's Studio. Music included published, improvised and original compositions. The music ranged from traditional classic music, Latin and Spanish, to Irish music. Every year we remind ourselves how students feel when they perform for others.

Individual teachers spearheaded efforts to provide varied musical opportunities for our students. Gayle Bland hosted and chaired the Jr. Bach Festival. There were 28 entries representing nine different teachers. The adjudicator was Jill Hickenlooper from Salem. Nancy Brown chaired the Sacred Music Recital, which was a great success. Eighteen students performed at the first recital and twenty-one at the second. At our March meeting, chairperson Nicola Curry collected the entries for the Composition Festival while Heidi Evans collected entry forms for Spring Syllabus. We appreciate all our members supporting these events and working together to make these efforts successful.

We are especially looking forward to our next meeting. Our OMTA State President, Gloria Dakin, will visit us and offer a motivational talk "Rekindle the Flame." It will certainly affect our conversations at our May meeting and brunch, as well as giving us ideas to contemplate and explore during the summer months. 



# Related Events



**Dennis Burbank**

*Adult Playing Class Chair*

## ADULT PLAYING CLASS

The OMTA Adult Playing Class is going strong in its new home, the Portland location of Classic Pianos. Please join us at our final class of the season, Saturday, June 7th at 10:30 a.m. Use the main entrance, go through the doorway just past the receptionist's desk, then make a u-turn into the recital hall. All OMTA teachers and their students are invited to attend, whatever their skill level, whether or not their instrument is piano and whether or not they plan to perform. Adult guests are also welcome to come and listen.

A sign-up sheet will be circulated at each class for those wishing to be on an e-mail reminder list. Coffee (decaf and regular) as well as plates and utensils are provided and you are encouraged to bring snacks to share with the other attendees. Please contact Dennis Burbank at 503-642-4305 in advance if you plan to play repertoire requiring two pianos or if you have further questions. We look forward to seeing you there! 

**Mark Mention**

*Director*

*and*

**Sandra Phadke**

*Administrator*

*Piano Santa Foundation*

## THE PIANO SANTA FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES 2008 GRAND SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION

Our 2008 Grand Scholarship competition takes place in June this year. In addition to the use of a beautiful grand piano, the winner of this competition will have some special performance opportunities not limited to PSF events. In the past, several of our students have performed as soloists with local chamber orchestras. The Grand Competition is open to all Portland area students ages 12-16 who are playing at intermediate to advanced skill levels, approximately Syllabus level 7 or above. Last year's competition included a dozen qualified students with the winner being approximately Syllabus level 7. Check out our Web site at [www.pianosanta.org](http://www.pianosanta.org) for applications.

## *Join the Sight-Read-a-Thon!*

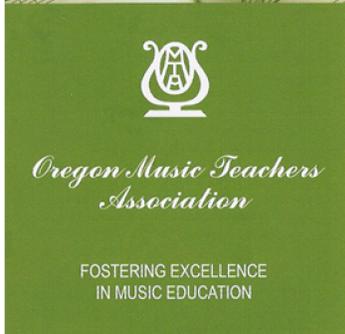
You have heard of walk-a-thons and read-a-thons. We are introducing a Sight-Read-A-Thon. The Piano Santa Foundation has developed a fun way to help students increase their sight-reading skills while raising funds to make in-home piano placement scholarships available to stu-

dents who want to learn to play piano but have no instrument. This program will run from April 12 through August 2. By making it fun, we hope to encourage students to increase their skills. Participants will also have the opportunity to receive three music books at an upcoming PSF event. Details and applications are available at [www.pianosanta.org](http://www.pianosanta.org).

## *Opportunity for OMTA Teachers*

Piano Santa Foundation is offering a new teaching program to first time students. This program, an introduction to piano, is offered in local schools to identify students interested in studying piano and music. Upon completion of the program, we anticipate some of these students will be interested in pursuing piano lessons. Please send an e-mail to [info@pianosanta.org](mailto:info@pianosanta.org) if you would like to be added to our teacher referral list. Student referrals would be at standard lesson rates. Also, please mention our referral list to any teachers you talk to in the Beaverton area. 





## Order OMTA Brochures

The brochure explains in clear, concise language the advantages of studying with an OMTA teacher as well as the benefits of becoming a member of OMTA, thus making it an ideal vehicle for recruiting students and new members or for publicizing the organization.

Brochures are 4 for \$1 plus shipping

Contact Bonnie Esbensen at 541-758-0036 for shipping costs for your order.

Brochures are free to districts for official OMTA business, but shipping costs may still apply.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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How many brochures do you want? \_\_\_\_\_

If this order is for your district, which district? \_\_\_\_\_

Make check out to: OMTA

Mail to: Bonnie Esbensen, 3925 NW Tillicum Pl., Corvallis, OR 97330



## OMTA MERIT CERTIFICATES

OMTA merit certificates are available to OMTA instructors and are earned by students who have completed a minimum of 30 lessons during the current teaching year.

These attractive, parchment-like half-sheet certificates are stamped with the OMTA embossed seal. Levels 2 through 14 are further enhanced by gold seals and colored ribbons. (A level represents a year of study and is not related to Syllabus levels.) The determination of the level of each student's award and all record keeping are the teacher's responsibilities. The student's name and level, and the teaching season (2007-2008) will be printed on the certificate. Certificates are stamped with the signature of OMTA President, Gloria Dakin, and there is a space for the teacher to sign. They are usually given in May or June and should be ordered three weeks in advance of the time the teacher wants to give them to students. You may pre-order via e-mail.

### *Guidelines for Ordering:*

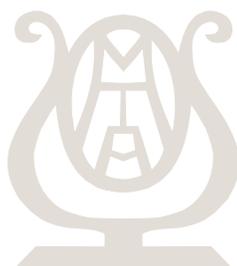
1. List the quantity of certificates desired for each level with each student's name typed or clearly printed.
2. Indicate the date you need the certificates (remember to allow 3 weeks).
3. Include a check or money order payable to OMTA (40 cents per certificate).
4. Include a copy of your current membership card.
5. All orders must be received by Elizabeth Cooper, Merit Certificate Chair, by May 31, 2008.

*For more information, contact Elizabeth:*

91 Oak Street, La Grande, OR 97850

541-962-1558

[lizabethcooper@verizon.net](mailto:lizabethcooper@verizon.net)





## SYLLABUS SUPPLIES

Syllabus manuals for piano, strings, woodwinds, Celtic harp, guitar, and jazz piano are available for purchase. Also available are the current repertoire lists. Prices and shipping costs are as follows:

	Members	Non-members
Piano Syllabus	\$10.00	\$15.00
Jazz Piano Syllabus	\$5.00	\$10.00
String	\$5.00	\$10.00
Woodwinds	\$5.00	\$10.00
Celtic Harp	\$5.00	\$10.00
Guitar	\$5.00	\$10.00
Repertoire lists:		
Lower Division (New! 2007)	\$10.00	\$15.00
Upper Division	\$4.00	\$8.00

### Shipping:

Orders totaling \$5.00, add \$1.25  
Orders totaling \$10.00, add \$2.50  
Orders totaling \$15.00, add \$3.50  
Orders totaling \$20.00, add \$4.50

Please send your checks, made out to OMTA,  
to Diane Kadwell, NCTM  
3525 N. Holly St.  
Canby, OR 97013-8135





## Submitting Articles and Ads

Please send articles, ads and accompanying graphics (in TIFF, EPS, JPEG or PDF format) to me via e-mail at shelley.bl@verizon.net. MS Word attachments are best.

1/4 column ads (and articles about events which require an admission fee or tuition):

\$10.00 for members  
\$25.00 for non-members

Larger ads at a proportional cost.  
(Contact me for amounts.)

Publication dates and deadlines are listed below.  
Submitting material before deadlines is always helpful and appreciated.

Thank you.  
Shelley Blumberg, *Music News* Editor

## Issues Deadlines

Sept/Oct	Aug. 1	Mar/Apr	Feb. 1
Nov/Dec	Oct. 1	May/June	Apr. 1
Jan/Feb	Dec. 1		

The Oregon Music Teachers Association, Inc.

### PIANO SYLLABUS

*With Virginia Hawley Buhn*

A Professional Course of Study on Video Tape

The OMTA Piano Syllabus is an outline of study designed to provide students with a thorough background in keyboard skills, musical understanding and performance ability. These video tapes offer suggestions for implementing the Syllabus as a basis for effective teaching.

This three-tape set is a must for piano teachers and your own music library. The Syllabus Video Tapes follow the course outline of the OMTA Syllabus Book and prepare students for a successful evaluation.

Tapes may be purchased separately.

**Volume 1: Lower division, Musicianship Skills:  
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**Jazz Syllabus Video**

Make checks or money orders payable to:

Oregon Music Teachers Association, Inc.  
Send to: Joan B. Gathercoal, NCTM  
3328 SW Chintimini Ave., Corvallis, OR 97333-1529  
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## Syllabus Video Order Form

Item	OMTA Member Price Each	Non-OMTA Member Price Each	Quantity	Subtotal
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Volume 1	\$15.95	\$19.95		
Volume 2	\$15.95	\$19.95		
Volume 3	\$15.95	\$19.95		
Jazz video tape or DVD	\$15.95	\$19.95		
Postage/Tape Set	\$4.00	\$4.00		
Postage/Single Tape or DVD	\$3.00	\$3.00		
<i>All proceeds go to the Jean Baines Proctor Memorial Fund.</i>				<b>Total:</b>

# Additional Study Guides



*The following materials are privately produced by some of our members for your benefit.*

## SYLLABUS STUDY SHEETS

Revised: 2006 version now available  
from Ed Davie.

Phone: 503-357-3185

E-mail: [edavie@oregonmta.org](mailto:edavie@oregonmta.org)

The price for one set of Levels I–X (10 sheets)  
is \$12.00 + \$5.00 p & h.

The purchase price includes copy  
rights for your own studio.

All proceeds are donated to the Roberta Davie Memorial  
Composition Scholarship.

For more information,  
contact Ed Davie and ask for an explanation sheet.

## PIANO SYLLABUS AIDS

Copies of more recent (2004–2006) rhythm-reading and sight-reading examples used during exams for Levels 1–10 are now available for reference in preparing students for their exams. If you would like to have a set, send a \$3.00 check (to cover Xerox and mailing costs) made out to Lisette Sage and mailed to her at 15240 SW Obsidian St., Beaverton, OR 97007-8949. (Earlier copies from 2001–2003 are also still available for \$3.00.) Please be sure to specify which set you would like to have.

## SUPER SCALES A LA SYLLABUS

### **Revised!**

Music Notation in All Keys  
Major & Minor Scales, Chords,  
Arpeggios, Progressions, Modes

Levels 1, 2, 3 Book 1	\$15.00
Levels 4, 5, 6 Book 2	15.00
Levels 7, 8, 9 Book 3	15.00
Postage: 1 book	1.50
Postage: 2 or 3 books	2.00

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20475 NW Rock Creek Blvd.

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<http://www.oregonmta.org/directory-local.html>

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