

# OMTA Music News

Opus 63

September/October 2008

No. 1



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## Education: Grants Awarded

Because of generous gifts to OMTA, the Education Committee has been able to award grants totaling \$6,553 to students and districts for continuing education. Six students of OMTA members received grants from the Jane Thomas Memorial Scholarship. The donors of this scholarship wish the recipients' names to remain anonymous.

Sherren Walker received a Frances and Constance Bittner Memorial Grant, and Jill Hickenlooper and Sarah Ball were recipients of the Albert Nakata Memorial Study Grant. There were no applicants this year for the Roberta Davie Composition Study Grant.

Twelve districts received grants from the Nellie Tholen Endowment Fund to help fund workshops and programs. These are the names of those who will be presenting a program or workshop and the dates. Teachers from all districts are welcome to attend.

1. Blue Mountain	Jeannine Jacobson	October 11, 2008
2. Central Oregon	Mary Hall Kogen	September 13, 2008
3. Eugene	Dorothy Fahlman	February 9, 2009
4. Lincoln County	Mary Hall Kogen	October 11, 2008
5. Linn Benton	Harold Gray	April 25, 2009
6. McMinnville	Harold Gray	March 2009
7. Mid-Columbia	Carol White	September 6, 2008
8. Rogue Valley	Sharon Hinckley	October 13, 2008
9. Roseburg	Margaret Littlehales	October 13, 2008
10. Salem	Mary Hall Kogen	October 6, 2008
11. Tualatin Valley	Dr. Susan Chan	February 13, 2009
	Dr. Susan Smith	April 2009
12. Umatilla-Morrow	Dr. Beverly Serra-Brooks	October 10, 2008

This year the applications from the districts exceeded almost \$1900 beyond what is in the Nellie Tholen Fund for 2008–2009. Therefore, we had to make decisions that we felt would be fair to all of the districts in Oregon.

Motion made and passed on July 16, 2008: Districts may apply for only one grant from the Nellie Tholen Fund each year.

*Pamela Miller, NCTM*  
Education Committee Chairman



# President's Corner

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Dear Colleagues,

Who are we? The 707 members of OMTA represent small and large studios. Our members teach composition, strings, voice, winds, percussion, and, of course, piano. Most of our events and festivals are piano-oriented because that is chosen field for the majority of us.

Our Conference this year was held in conjunction with the Portland International Piano Summer Festival, again a strong piano emphasis. Our own OMTA portion, however, was geared for all teachers. Those who attended learned about using technology to communicate with students and to encourage us to develop studios that are competent in the current high-tech climate.

Julianne Miranda, who presented this workshop—and another on using imagery, self-talk and experience to shape peak performance—has a special invitation for us all. Julianne has created an online social network for the teachers of OMTA. Even if you were not able to attend Julianne's workshop, consider joining this group; we can share ideas and thoughts about technology, teaching and learning. To join, go to <http://landofoz.ning.com/?xgi=govizh5> and by clicking on it, you can register for NING, enabling your participation in the social network. Don't worry about the birthday thing. They really do honor privacy. (You can actually make one up if you don't want to give your real one.) If you wish to contact Julianne directly, e-mail me and I will give you her contact information.

Attendees also had an option to learn about making voice-saving choices when undergoing procedures requiring anesthesia.

Cindy Howard gave an excellent presentation about keeping our vocal chords safe.

A great big thank you goes to these folks who helped make our Conference a success: Alena Dubauskaya, Conference Registrar; Robyn Pfeifer, Foundation Chair; Vanessa Jump-Nelson for helping with the programming; Jan Mittlstaedt and Pauline Jensen for organizing the OMTA Authors and Composers table; Ruth Sadilek, Alena and Vanessa for entertaining on the great Portland Spirit Dinner Cruise, and for Portland hosts Cherise da Cunha, Solveig Sorensen and Cindy Peterson-Peart.

As you peruse the last few pages of this issue, you will notice a few new names on the State Board listing. Take a minute to thank your local members for serving on the Board, and do consider volunteering or saying yes when you are invited to serve. OMTA is a great organization—because of YOU!

Our fall State Board meeting will be held in Salem on November 1. Details will be sent to all Board members. Non-Board members are welcome to attend, as observers. If you have an item for the agenda, please send it to me by October 20.

As I write this I have just a few more days of summer lessons before a month's leave time, but I am already looking forward to those first school-year lessons. There is just something wonderful about helping other human beings join and grow in the family of music. May your lessons be fruitful, joyful and filled with wonderful music.

Happy Trails,

*Susan M. Todd, NCTM*  
President, OMTA

# State News *Board of Directors*

Myrna Elmore, NCTM  
OMTA State Secretary



## OMTA STATE BOARD MEETING

At the OMTA State Board Meeting, held in Portland, Oregon on July 16, 2008, it was moved, seconded and passed that:

- Districts should be allowed to apply for only one grant from the Nellie Tholen Fund each year.
- Beginning in 2009, the Oregon Junior Bach Festival will include only music written by J.S. Bach in the Competitive Keyboard Division. The Non-Competitive division will include any Baroque composer. All non-keyboard entrants may play music from any Baroque composer in the Competitive and Non-Competitive Divisions.
- Since the E-mail and Fax Directory is intended to facilitate communication between individual members of OMTA, mass e-mailings using the e-mail list should continue to be restricted to state business. Use of the e-mail list for advertising is prohibited. All mass e-mail must be approved by either the State President or the Publications Chair prior to being sent.
- OMTA purchase \$1,000,000 worth of Officer/Board of Directors Insurance from Great American at an annual cost of \$1,295.
- OMTA purchase \$50,000 worth of Bonding Insurance at an annual cost of \$250. The amount of insurance to be adjusted at the next State Board Meeting, when the amount needed will be determined. 

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# State News *Syllabus*

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*Bethany Crosby*  
State Syllabus Chair



As your new State Syllabus Chair, I would like to thank Liz Willis, NCTM for the time and energy she invested in directing OMTA's Syllabus program the last 4 years. We have all benefited because of her dedication. I have appreciated the support she has shown in helping me get started in this role.

I am not the only new person to join the Syllabus Committee this summer. Diane Kadwell, NCTM will be turning over her responsibility handling Syllabus Supplies to Darlene Goin. Diane has served OMTA very capably for many years in different roles and I appreciate her dedication to our Syllabus Program.

Patti Peterson, NCTM has directed our Adjudicator Training Program. Because of her fine work we have added 14 new adjudicators to our team during the last four years! Patti turns her responsibilities over to Margaret Littlehales, NCTM this summer. I look forward to working with Darlene and Margaret and I know you will appreciate them in their new roles. Be sure to look in the new directory for a complete list of the Syllabus Committee members.

Our Syllabus program continues to be successful. Just over 2900 students participated in evaluations during the fall of '07 and the spring of '08. Those evaluations included strings, guitar, Celtic harp, voice, woodwinds and jazz piano.

Alena Dubauskaya, NCTM of Portland, Pam Miller, NCTM of Salem and Liz Caswell, NCTM of Portland completed the adjudicator training process this past Spring and I welcome them to our staff of adjudicators. The annual retreat for OMTA adjudicators will be October 18 at Sherman Clay.

Please remember to check the Web site frequently throughout the year. You will be able to get the current forms and fees and make the job of your local Syllabus Chair much easier. Those who live in the Portland District should use the Portland District site ([omta-portland.org](http://omta-portland.org)). This site will have the current forms and fees along with Syllabus dates and names and phone numbers of various chairs.

If you need Syllabus manuals, repertoire lists or certificates contact Darlene Goin, 503 658-8251. 

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*Claudia Hegberg*  
Level X Recital Chair



## LEVEL X STATE RECITAL

These recitals will always be once a year, the first Sunday in June. The next one will be June 7, 2009 (from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m., 2:30 to 3:30, and 4:00 to 5:00) at Sherman and Clay in Downtown Portland. 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 22.

Claudia Hegberg  
16920 NW Elkton  
Beaverton, OR 97006



## State News *Ensemble Festival*

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*Joan B. Gathercoal, NCTM*  
State Ensemble Chair



### STATE ENSEMBLE FESTIVAL

Everyone is invited to ... two days, four recitals of the most incredible ensemble music in Oregon.

Saturday, November 15  
and Sunday, November 16, 2008

Two recitals each day:  
2:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.  
a reception following each recital

The Russell Tripp Performance Center in Takena Hall, LBCC Albany Campus is again the site for the 2008 OMTA State Ensemble Festival. Linn-Benton Community College has agreed to host the event. Students will have the privilege of perform-

ing on LBCC's 9 foot Steinway (an artist model) and a Yamaha CFIIS 9 foot concert grand (being provided for the occasion courtesy of Lawson's Keyboard in Eugene).

Age groups are K through 5th, 6th through 8th, and 9th through 12th.

The 2008 teacher guidelines, 2008 adjudicator guidelines, and new entry forms are all on the Web site: <http://www.oregonmta.org/Forms.html>.

All teachers and students who are not performing are also invited to attend. It will be a great opportunity for your students to learn about and experience ensemble music. We look forward to seeing all of you at the festival.

## State News *Oregon Junior Bach Festival*

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*Gayle Bland, NCTM*  
Jr. Bach Festival Chair



### 2009 OREGON JUNIOR BACH FESTIVAL

It is already time to be thinking about the Junior Bach Festival. The season will be here before we know it. The forms and guidelines will be updated on the Web site shortly. Please use those forms.

Each district is responsible for its own expenses.

At the State Board meeting in July a motion was passed regarding the rules for Competitive Division. Beginning in 2009

the Competitive Keyboard Division will accept only music written by J.S. Bach. The Non-Competitive division will include any Baroque composer. Non-keyboard entrants may play music from any Baroque composer in both the Competitive and Non-Competitive Divisions.

If you have questions, please contact Gayle Bland at [billgaylebland@yahoo.com](mailto:billgaylebland@yahoo.com).

# State News *Scholarships*

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*Shirley Byrne*  
*Guthrie & Jenks Scholarships*  
*Coordinator*



In auditions held April 6, 2008, the Linn-Benton Chapter of OMTA selected three student musicians to receive scholarships. Auditions were open to students from Linn, Benton and Lincoln Counties who were seniors in high school or who were already studying music at the college level.

Justin Chi and Katie Satak, both seniors at Crescent Valley High School, each won a \$500 Dorothy May Jenks Scholarship. MariAnne Nikkel, a graduate of Philomath High School, won a \$1,000 Loene P. Guthrie Scholarship. All three awards are for the year 2008–2009.

Justin Chi, violist and pianist, plans to attend Oregon State University, majoring in environmental engineering and continuing music studies and performance. He is Principal Viola in both the Camerata String Orchestra and the regional Corvallis Youth Symphony. He is also an outstanding pianist and was one of the featured piano soloists in Saint Saens' Carnival of the Animals with the Corvallis Youth Symphony last December. Justin is a piano student of Mary Ann Guenther. He has studied viola with Janet Throop and Rosanne Smith.

Katie Satak, soprano, plans to attend the University of Oregon studying voice and music education. She has sung in

school choirs for the past four years and sang a lead part in "The Sound of Music" in 2007. She has been one of the conductors for the sophomore women's choir. She sang in the Heart of the Valley Choir for three years during elementary school. Katie's voice teacher is Beverly Park.

MariAnne Nikkel plans to continue working toward a music degree in vocal performance at Corban College in Salem, Oregon. She hopes to become a voice teacher. In December 2007 MariAnne was a lead solo singer in the college performance of the Gloria by Vivaldi. She is also interested in music composition. Her piano teachers were Ruth Aardsma, Linda Hansen, and Mary Swanson. She has studied voice with Beverly Park and Deb Vogel, and currently studies with Bonnie Johnson at Corban College.

The Jenks Scholarship was created by Mrs. Doris Scharpf of Albany, Oregon in honor of her dear friend and music supporter, the late Dorothy May Jenks. (Mrs. Jenks was the mother of OMTA member Mary Jacq Burck.) The Guthrie Scholarship was created by the will of Mrs. Loene P. Guthrie, a long-time member of OMTA, Linn-Benton District.



# State News *Certification*

*Patti Widener, NCTM  
Certification Chair*



Greetings Colleagues!

I want to begin this column with a heartfelt THANK YOU to the awesome Cathy Thoma, who has served as state certification chair for the past ten years. She has been a tremendous catalyst for national certification in Oregon. I follow humbly in her footsteps.

I would like to spend a moment talking about growth. As independent music teachers, we are in the business of growth. We live for those magic moments when we see musical growth in our students. In addition, we constantly invest our energy into facilitating that growth, so those magic moments do happen and student, parent and teacher can rejoice.

As we look ahead to this next teaching year and plan for our students, are we planning for our own professional growth as well? National Certification is such a path for professional (and personal) growth. It is accessible for all teachers and provides a national standard for professional excellence for the independent music teacher.

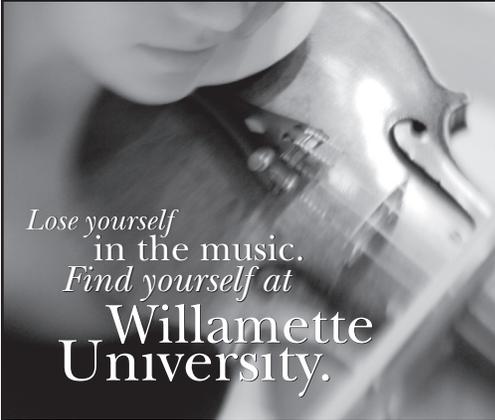
Jeanine M. Jacobsen—in her excellent book *Professional Piano Teaching* (Alfred Publishing Co., Inc., 2006)—says, “It is each teacher’s responsibility to refine the art of teaching through continuing education and thoughtful experience.” She goes on to list characteristics common to all professionals, including a commitment to continuing education to upgrade skills and professional certification.

If you want to know more about what becoming nationally certified involves, I would be happy to talk to you. Also, check out the excellent certification section on the MTNA Web site: [www.mtnacertification.org](http://www.mtnacertification.org). You can also contact Melissa Curtice at [mcurtice@mtna.org](mailto:mcurtice@mtna.org) for a packet.

Musically yours,

Patti Widener, NCTM  
503-246-8183  
[happykeys88@hotmail.com](mailto:happykeys88@hotmail.com)

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# State News *OMTA Publications*

*Bonnie Esbensen*  
Publications Chair



## A NEW LOOK FOR THE OMTA BROCHURE

The OMTA brochure has a sophisticated new look. With the help of Julie Weiss, graphic designer, and Terry Poe, photographer, the brochure has been completely redesigned with all new photos and a new layout. In addition, the information has been updated and edited to be clearer and more consistent in tone.

Once again, OMTA is subsidizing the cost of the brochures so that members can use the brochures for recruitment and publicity. Cost to members is 4 for \$1. OMTA brochures can be ordered from Bonnie Esbensen using the form on page 20.



## Oregon Music Teachers Association

*Fostering Excellence  
in Music Education*

### *About the Organization*

The Oregon Music Teachers Association (OMTA) is dedicated to fostering excellence in music education. We strive to develop productive relationships with schools, organizations, businesses, and the media to promote music everywhere. We seek to elevate the status of the private music teacher and to encourage and recognize student achievement in music.

Our members are the concert artists of today and tomorrow, faculty members of fine music

schools, and the private music teachers who build the foundation of America's music scene.

OMTA is an affiliate of the Music Teachers National Association (MTNA), the oldest professional music teachers association in the United States.

### *For More Information*

To find out more or to contact someone in your area, go to our Web site at: [www.oregonmta.org](http://www.oregonmta.org).



## State News *Composer of the Year 2009*

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



ESTHER MEGARGEL

Esther Megargel has been selected as our composer for 2009. Esther will compose a set of chamber works for pre-college students, which will include various combinations of winds, strings, and piano. The music will represent scenes of Oregon.

Esther has been involved with composition activities in OMTA for many years, and recently (Spring 2008) completed her Bachelors of Music in Composition at the University of Oregon.

The premier of this commissioned work will be at the 2009 OMTA Conference. 

## State News *Independent Music Teacher's Forum*

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*Barbara Imbrie, NCTM*  
*Independent Music Teachers*  
*Forum Chair*



Dear Colleagues,

Having just come down from Cloud 9 of the 10th annual International Piano Symposium, I am trying to organize my life for the fall with new students, etc.

I am accepting only students whom I feel will really take piano seriously and am requesting they take hour lessons. I will use the Piano Syllabus this year and I am focusing on giving my students theory, technique, repertoire and classical studies. I am expecting practice of 45 minutes daily and am limiting my days of teaching to Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

The inspiration I received from Randall Faber, who was the leading clinician, invites

more use of his and Nancy's books. It has revitalized my approach to teaching and I have more to offer my students.

I felt encouraged by the film "Note by Note" that detailed the making of a concert grand—from the wood selected in Alaska to the final touches at the end of a full year of construction. I have a model B, 1926, and I am proud of my instrument.

Feel free to e-mail me to voice concerns or share ideas: joemariebrie@aol.com. I love hearing from you.

Have a good summer. I hope to see you at the first OMTA meeting in September.

Barbara Imbrie

# State News *Membership*

Barbara Gustafson, NCTM  
OMTA State Membership Chair



## Welcome New Members *September/October 2008*

### Eugene District

Powell, Judith  
*Voice & Piano*



### Linn-Benton District

Hopkins, Matthew S.  
*Piano*

Recek, Andrea  
*Piano*



### Portland District

Murvihill, Ronald  
*Piano*

Redman, Cinda  
*Piano*

Taylor, Kelly  
*Piano*

Tsukamoto, Akiko  
*Piano*

Weber, Kim  
*Piano*

Wheaton, Lena  
(Previously Vozheiko-Wheaton)  
*Piano*



### Rogue Valley District

Hall, Marsha  
*Piano*

### Salem District

Bartsch, John  
*Piano*

Ivanitsky, Irene  
*Piano*



### At-Large

Wright, NCTM, Jill (dual member)  
*Piano*

Rue, NCTM, Kristie (dual member)  
*Piano*



Congratulations to the following  
Provisional Members who have recently  
achieved Active Membership in OMTA:

### Portland District

Diane E. Gadbaugh

Kelly Taylor

## Changes & Corrections

### Portland District

Lee, Yuri H.  
(previously Y. Hannah Lee)  
*Piano*



### Salem District

Pratt, Karen L. (new)  
*Piano, Theory*



## District News *Eugene*

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*Sarah Burch*  
Corresponding Secretary



Warm greetings from the Eugene District! We had a fantastic finish to a banner year this spring with nearly 200 students participating in our Spring Festival, which was masterfully organized by Carol White. Several local businesses provided support to bring us to The Studio at the Hult Center for the Performing Arts; over 6 1/2 hours of music from around the world was enjoyed by all. We also had a very successful Spring Syllabus, which was chaired by Lucy Clevenger.

This summer, we have met several times to plan for the coming season. Carolyn McHan, our past president, has graciously agreed to another term as our district president. We are looking forward to continued success under her leadership. As we look toward fall, we anticipate informative and enriching teacher programs on Liszt and Schumann. We are looking forward to our annual fall events as well, including the perennial student favorite: the Pop Festival, our Ensemble Festival, and Fall Syllabus. 

## District News *Lincoln County*

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*Jess Smith*  
District President



Lincoln County District will start its Fall 2008 season with its semi-annual Spotlight on the Teachers program. It will be held at the Newport Performing Arts Center on Sunday, September 14 at 2:00 p.m. The purpose of the event is to raise money for the Lincoln County District Scholarship Fund, which funds lessons for students unable to afford the lessons on their own. Since the program's inception in 1997, over 75 students have been helped all or partially with their tuition. Lincoln County teachers participating in the September 14 program are Jessie Treon, Mary Lee Scoville, Sarah Ball, and Jess Smith, with guest artists Kathleen Lacey, soprano,

Marcia Wilcox, pianist, and the recorder ensemble Lost In Time. Admission is by donation at the door.

Thanks to a grant from the Nellie Tholen Fund, Lincoln County District will present a workshop by Mary Hall Kogen entitled *Learning Through Rhythm and Movement*. It will be given Saturday, October 11, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Newport Performing Arts Center, Studio Theater. OMTA teachers from other districts are invited to attend, and at no charge. For further information, or to make reservations for space in the workshop, contact Jess Smith, at 541-563-3652. 

## District News *Rogue Valley*

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*Judy Axtell*  
District Secretary



Rogue Valley is taking advantage of the new OMTA program roster this year. We'll have a visit from Jan Mittelstaedt and Carol Ratzlof in October to check out the new Syllabus Contemporary Lit List, then in the spring, with a Nellie Tholen grant, we will have Sharon Hinckley to talk about Enhancing Teaching Skills. Later in the year Joyce

Stevens will give her unique presentation of Music of Various Composers That Portrays the Activities, Moods or Songs of Birds.

We are happy to have a new member, Marsha Hall, who will be living and teaching in Jacksonville. Member Amy Weaver, who received certification last year, has moved with her family to Idaho. 

## District News *Roseburg*

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*Marti Magnussen*  
District Secretary



Our short hot Oregon summer will be drawing to a close soon and our students will be back, motivated and looking forward to beginning their lessons again when school starts. (At least we hope they are motivated.)

Several teachers, myself included, choose to teach through the summer to avoid the several lessons of "catch-up" from the 10 weeks away during the summer. Those lessons are real bums.

One of our own successful teachers, Virginia Young, was honored last June. She received awards from the city and citizens of Roseburg, Mayor Rich, and the

City Council. The ceremony was a way of expressing sincere appreciation for her outstanding contributions to our community and her dedication to the musical arts. Congratulations, Virginia.

On Monday, September 8, Margaret Littlehales will present a workshop titled Albums for the Young. She will demonstrate the works of many composers throughout musical history who have written compositions especially for young students. Our district is also looking forward to a workshop given by Alexander Tutunov on Saturday, November 15. The public will be welcomed. 



# District News *Salem*

*Denise Steinbach, NCTM*  
District Secretary



Exciting opportunities abound in Salem District this fall! Early in September we will begin the new school year with a business meeting and informal potluck lunch. On Monday, October 6, from 10:00 a.m. to noon, Mary Kogen, Professor Emerita from Portland State University, will offer a Piano Pedagogy Session to all OMTA members and their guests. In this two-hour participatory presentation, Mary will cover the basic teaching skills of rhythm, ear training, improvisation, reading, and transposition for beginning piano students. This hands-on workshop is being partially funded by the Nellie Tholen Fund and will be held in the Bach Room, at Weathers Music Store, 2825 Commercial Street SE, Salem, OR 97302.

Weathers Music Store will also be hosting our district Ensemble Festival, chaired by Pamela Miller, on October 25 and our Romantic Festival on November 8. Barbara Parker has graciously agreed to be our adjudicator for the Romantic Festival.

Fall Syllabus exams will be held the following weekend, November 14 and 15, organized by Linda Greer. Our students will also have the opportunity to perform holiday music during the month of December at Music at the Capitol Building and Music in the Mall, all coordinated by Deborah Snow-Butler. With the help of Sally Crawford, we will wrap up 2008 with the Salem Federated Music Teachers at the annual holiday luncheon on December 5. 



## *Musique à Beaumont*

*Val De Loire, France*

June 27 - July 4, 2009

### **Summer Piano Institute**

Master classes, concerts and Feldenkrais workshops  
for 2-piano and 4-hand duos.  
Solo auditors/Master class also available.

Site visits to châteaux, vineyards, and villages of the Loire Valley

*Jill Timmons, Institute Music Director*

*The Klugherz Timmons Duo*  
*artists in residence*

**For information regarding registration,  
auditions, fees and accommodations,  
contact Jill Timmons at: [jtimmons@linfield.edu](mailto:jtimmons@linfield.edu).**

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# District News *Tualatin Valley*

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*Nancy Brown*  
District Secretary



Tualatin Valley District Teachers were inspired at their April meeting by OMTA president Gloria Dakin's presentation "Rekindling the Flame." She believes that a music teacher who is continually nurturing his/her own professional growth will have more enthusiasm for teaching, and she had many excellent suggestions for ways we can become better musicians and teachers.

We began our May meeting with a delicious brunch to celebrate another successful year. Composition chairperson Nicola Curry showed us the book of our students' Honorable Mention compositions, which she had compiled and had printed. It is available for us to purchase for a small fee. This year we had nine students participate, representing three teachers. Syllabus chairperson Heidi Evans announced that eighty-four students, representing thirteen teachers, had participated in Spring Syllabus. Susan Marandas passed out a proposal for us to develop a Playing Class where we could play for each other and share repertoire. She asked us to think about the format of the class during the summer. Our 2008–2009 district officers are: President,

Sherrene Walker; President Elect, Susan Marandas; Secretary, Nancy Brown; and Treasurer, Renee Masanque.

We are very excited that Michael Allen Harrison will be presenting a program on teaching composition and improvisation at our October 10 meeting. It will be followed by Q and A with teachers; refreshments; a master class with beginner, intermediate and advanced students; and a presentation on "How to Practice" from his new manuscript. We invite you and your students to attend this program. Being that this is a school holiday for many school districts, you can invite your students to attend. The program will be at Tigard Christian Church at 13405 SW Hall Blvd., Tigard, 97223. Please R.S.V.P. with your name and the number of your attendees to Nicola Curry at [kncmus@comcast.net](mailto:kncmus@comcast.net) by October 3. The program is being sponsored by the music teachers of the Tualatin Valley District, Sherman Clay/Moe's Pianos, Portland Music Company and Tigard Music. We hope to see you there. 



# Related News & Opportunities



*Dennis Burbank*

*Adult Playing Class Chair*

## ADULT PLAYING CLASS

The 2008–2009 season of the OMTA adult playing class begins at Classic Pianos in Portland, 10:30 a.m., Saturday, Oct. 4. All OMTA teachers and their students are cordially invited to come and play or listen and are free to invite guests to listen. The class is open to instrumentalists and singers of all levels. There are no repertoire

requirements; our only limitation is time, (2 hours), and the class is non-instructed. Coffee (of both persuasions) is provided and you bring munchies as desired. Please let me know in advance if two pianos will be needed or you have other questions. (503-642-4305).

Do join us. 

*Ingrid Arnett*

*Community Relations Director*

*Portland Youth Philharmonic*

## PORTLAND YOUTH PHILHARMONIC

Do any of your piano students ever wish there were more options available to them for ensemble playing? The Portland Youth Philharmonic has a proposal for you and your students to consider.

At PYP, we would love to audition any of your interested students in the hopes of finding them a place in the percussion section of one of our ensembles. Pianists already have counting and rhythm skills, and they are a natural when it comes to mallet instruments because it's the same layout as a keyboard. Additionally, orchestral music does have a piano part from time to time, so they might have the opportunity to be called upon to play the piano in the orchestra.

If any of your students would like to pursue this idea, please have them download an audition brochure at [http://portlandyouthphil.org/pdf/audition\\_0809.pdf](http://portlandyouthphil.org/pdf/audition_0809.pdf) or call to 503-223-5939 to receive one in

the mail. If you have any questions, please contact Orchestra Manager Ann Cockerham at 503-223-5939 x102.

On another note, it is time once again for the PYP's Piano Concerto Competition. The application deadline is February 17, 2009. The competition will take place April 5, 2009. The winner will perform during PYP's 2009-2010 Season. Please call Ann Cockerham at 503-223-5939 x102 for more information or to sign up to receive an application.

The Portland Youth Philharmonic, founded in 1924, is America's first youth orchestra. PYP has four ensembles including a string ensemble, a wind ensemble, and two full orchestras. Members, ranging in age from 7 to 23, are accepted by audition. For more information go to [portlandyouthphil.org](http://portlandyouthphil.org) or call Ingrid Arnett, PYP Community Relations Director, at 503-223-5939. 



# Related News and Opportunities



Submitted by  
*LaRayne Roland*

KEYBOARD COMPANION GROUP SUBSCRIPTION  
All OMTA members are invited to join the Portland District group subscription to *Keyboard Companion*, a wonderfully educational piano teaching publication. It is published quarterly, with a regular subscription price \$24. Group members pay a reduced rate of only \$20. The issues are mailed directly to your home. For more information on the publication, visit their Web site at [www.KeyboardCompanion.com](http://www.KeyboardCompanion.com).

To join the group, send your check for \$20, payable to LaRayne Rowland, (they will only accept ONE check for the group) to LaRayne Rowland at 355 NE Sequoia Hillsboro, OR 97124. Subscription deadline is October 1. Questions may be referred to LaRayne at 503-648-1062 or via e-mail at [laraynerowland@hotmail.com](mailto:laraynerowland@hotmail.com). 

Submitted by  
*Matt Cooper, NCTM*

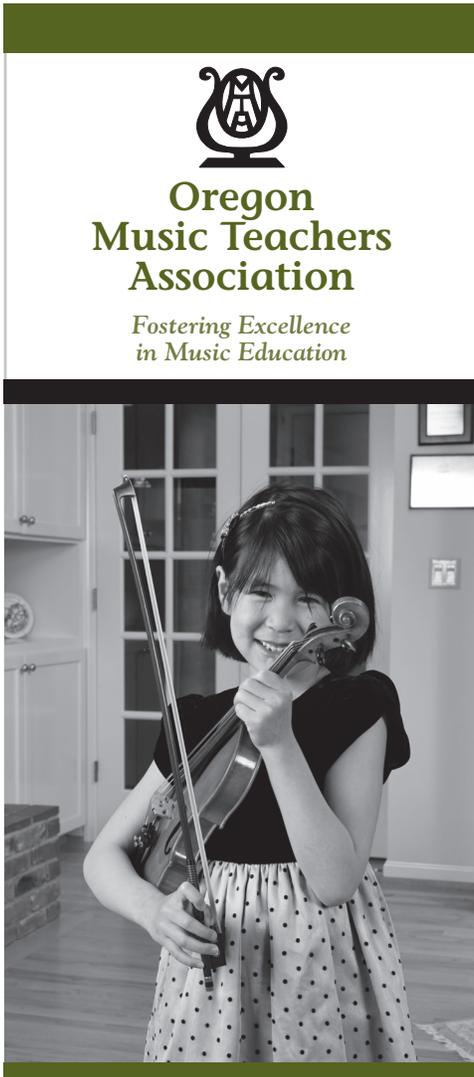
IN REMEMBRANCE: SLAVA SOBOLEVSKY  
On April 24th 2008, the musical world lost a great pianist and pedagogue with the passing of Vyacheslav (Slava) Sobolevsky. Slava, along with his wife Irina, helped to coordinate the OMTA Russian Exchange "Music Without Borders" (initiated by Dorothy Fahlman in 1996) from their home in Khabarovsk. For a period of about eight years they hosted several delegations of OMTA music students and teachers and also traveled several times to Oregon, including appearances at the OMTA conferences in 1999 and 2000.

Born in 1936, Slava grew up in Mariopol, Ukraine, where he fled the destruction of his village by German SS troops. After completing his studies in Odessa, he moved to the Far East in 1960 at the invitation of the Khabarovsk Krai (regional) Philharmonia. His association with the Philharmonia lasted for almost fifty years, serving not only as a performer but as an impresario, producer, college piano teacher, and mentor. He performed as a soloist and

with orchestra, touring through every corner of the Russian Far East as well as most of European Russia, China, Japan, Korea, the United States and Canada. He chaired the Khabarovsk Governor's Council of Artistic Intelligentsia and served as a juror on numerous competitions.

Slava was also a published composer and lyricist, having written many songs in a cabaret style. He was revered by the artistic community—not only musicians but actors, artists and writers—in a region several times the size of France. For his many artistic achievements, he was given the title of Honored Artist of the Soviet Union.

Slava will be remembered not only for his amazing performances and master classes, but for his warmth, geniality and wit. He was an excellent cook, baker and raconteur, and could tell a joke with such skillful timing that it would make audiences laugh even while being translated by an interpreter. He will be missed by the many of us in OMTA whose lives he touched. 



## 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? \_\_\_\_\_

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Make check out to: OMTA

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

## OMTA MERIT CERTIFICATES

Thank you to the many OMTA teachers who ordered Merit Certificates this year. I enjoyed working with you to honor your faithful students. Next year's orders will be handled by Fen-Fang Tsao. Information on ordering 2009 Merit Certificates will be in future issues.

Sincerely,

*Elizabeth Cooper*  
Merit Certificate Chair, 2007–2008



## 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  
Darlene Goin  
12201 SE 162nd Avenue  
Happy Valley, OR 97086-6766  
503-658-8251





## 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 DVD*

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. The DVDs offer ideas and methods for implementing the syllabus as a basis for learning and performance.

The original VCRs were developed by Virginia Buhn in 1996 and have sold more than 1200 copies. The new DVDs follow the course outline of the OMTA Syllabus Book and are designed to help piano teachers prepare students for a successful evaluation.

### JAZZ PIANO SYLLABUS with Gary Ruppert *A Professional Course of Study on DVD*

The OMTA Jazz Piano Syllabus was developed by Gary Ruppert in the mid 1980s. A revision, done in the summer of 2003, was based on feedback received from teachers, students, and adjudicators who used the first version. Their comments and encouragement have been of inestimable value.

This DVD is meant to help teachers and their students navigate the various levels of the Jazz Syllabus and discover the joys of studying jazz piano.

*(See order from below)*

Make checks or money orders payable to:

OMTA, Joan B. Gathercoal, NCTM  
3328 SW Chintimini Avenue, Corvallis, OR 97333-1529  
Phone: 541-752-4732



## Syllabus Video Order Form



Item	OMTA Member Price Each	Non-OMTA Member Price Each	Quantity	Subtotal
Piano Syllabus DVDs (set of 2)	\$20.00	\$25.00		
Jazz Piano Syllabus	\$15.00	\$20.00		
Postage	\$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	2.00
Postage: 2 or 3 books	2.50

*Donna Byars*

Ph: 503-614-8622

20475 NW Rock Creek Blvd.

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*Below is a link for more details  
(on areas each district encompasses and how to reach the chairs):*  
<http://www.oregonmta.org/directory-local.html>

## Music News

*Published by:*

Oregon Music Teachers Association, Inc.

*Affiliated with:*

Music Teachers National Association, Inc.

*Graphic Design by:*

Julie Weiss, Tobias Weiss Design

[julie@tobiasweissdesign.com](mailto:julie@tobiasweissdesign.com)

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## SUPPORT SECRETARY (COMPUTER RECORDS)

*Edward W. Davie*

*255 Jessica Drive, Forest Grove, OR 97116-1295*

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**Next Music News copy DEADLINE:**  
*October 1, 2008*

