

OMTA General Membership Meeting

Friday, June 25, 2021

8:45 a.m.

Live Stream from Bend, OR

President Sarah Ball called the Annual General Membership meeting to order at 8:46 a.m.

The minutes from the OMTA General Membership Meeting for June 2020 were approved as distributed.

Approval of Agenda – adding Klamath Basin to list of districts for farewell message.

Officers in Attendance:

President	Sarah Ball
President-Elect	Liz Willis
Past President	Selina Manson
Treasurer	Fern McArthur
Restricted Funds Treasurer	Susan Todd
Secretary	Amie Belisle

71 live viewers on YouTube

Officers' Reports:

President: Sarah Ball

Thank you for the honor of serving as president. Many members attended the MTNA Virtual Conference on Zoom. Oregon members gathered afterward on zoom to reminisce. Honored Carol White as our 2021 Foundation Fellow. A record 6 students participated in MTNA National competition with Nolan Tu, Jr. Piano (teacher Rennato Fabro), Ian Schipper, Young Artist Voice (teacher Liz Caswell) each earning 3 rd place.

Moment of Silence to commemorate the passing of Frances Greer Tualatin Valley, Marti Magnusson, UVSC, Lori Martinson, Betty Balmer Portland District

President-Elect: Liz Willis

No report

Past President Selina Manson

Report follows as Conference Chair

Treasurer: Fern McArthur read by Liz Willis

Current financial numbers: Restricted Funds Checking Balance: \$58,498; Savings Market Account Balance: \$16,179 total \$74,677 Music Link \$5,389; Total funds for unrestricted use: \$69,288.

Budget for 21-22 will be presented in the fall

Restricted Funds:**Susan Todd**

As of May 28, 2021, the combined OMTA Restricted Funds totaled \$715,476.01.

Scholarship Competition Chairs Paula Watt and Kelli Stephens held a successful in-person, socially distanced event in May 2021. \$14,450.00 was awarded to OMTA Scholarship Winners. Nearly all scholarships had entrants this year.

A \$400 summer camp scholarship was awarded to a Music Link student.

Education Grants will be awarded later this summer.

The remaining education grants will be determined later this summer. Districts are encouraged to apply for the Nellie Tholen program grant administered by Margaret Littlehales.

Since the last General Membership meeting the Betty Balmer Education Grant has been fully funded at \$10,000 and the OMTA Board approved designating to \$12,000 to help pay for OMTA leadership training.

Secretary:**Amie Belisle read by Liz Willis**

This last weekend, we had a very productive board meeting with excellent participation and strong attendance. Welcome to our new Lincoln County Co-President Cathy Champion-Predmore, East Portland president Patti Duthie, West Portland president Liz Caswell and Tualatin Valley president Kristin Cichoski. And unfortunately a goodbye to the Klamath Basin district due to declining membership.

Standing Committees Reports:**A. Certification:****Rebekah Carter read by Liz Willis**

In 2020-2021, three OMTA members became Nationally Certified Teachers of Music:

Andrew D'Antonio, Portland—East Portland District; Alona Maizlin, Lake Oswego--East Portland District; Lauren Buck Fraley, West Portland/East Portland Districts

These three members completed the Certification Projects in Piano.

Six OMTA members have formally applied for certification through MTNA in 2020-2021. All are from the greater Portland metropolitan area, with the exception of one member in the Central Oregon district and another in the Eugene district. All are completing the Certification Projects in Piano.

I have contacted all of these members to offer formal congratulations, offer support, and connect members to mentors in their district, when requested.

To my knowledge, only two grants were awarded in 2020-2021, and both were East Portland district grants. This left five OMTA certification grants and one Portland district grant

remaining. All newly certified members are mailed a copy of the certification grant application to complete, and are offered an opportunity to be Spotlitged in Music News.

B. Competitions

Julia Lee

No report

C. Conference:

Selina Mason

Recognition of conference committee – Selina (chair) introduced Liz Willis – master class, Kathy Gault – on site and tuner, Cindy Peterson-Peart raffle, catering, piano rental, Selina and Caris Website and advertising, registration coordinating with videographer

75 online registrations, 25 in person registrations

Next Year’s conference will be in Florence, Oregon in 2022 with Liz Willis as chair.

D. Education:

Janet Pollack read by Liz Willis

In spite of a multitude of challenges this year, our virtual state festivals proved artistically successful and financially lucrative. Participation increased for the Baroque Festival under the guidance of our chair, Craig Hanson, and saw a net gain of \$548.95; the Composition Festival in the capable hands of our chair, Dianne Davis, celebrated with a net gain of \$61.00. Both of these wonderful chairs have agreed to continue next year. Unfortunately the Ensemble Festival was necessarily postponed due to the pandemic to the fall of 2021, and the Sonatina Festival—which is scheduled to take place every other year—was not planned to take place until fall of 2021, when it will be co-chaired by Sandy Hull and Rebekah Carter. We need to thank and applaud these members who chair our events for they give so much of their time, energy and expertise in making our festivals a reality.

E. Finance:

Fern McArthur read by Liz Willis

OMTA finances are stable and can continue to support all programs and utilities. Fiscal year is September 1 through August 21st. Our annual budget for the upcoming fiscal year is usually presented at the conferences but due to protocols yet to be decided, as we move out of Covid restrictions and also decisions to be made for various updates and communications, we will delay presentation of the 2021/2022 budget for a vote at the September OMTA state board meeting at the September OMTA state board meeting.

F. Marketing & Social Media Accounts: Angela Kelly read by Liz Willis

Presentations at area colleges – Zoom at Piano Pedagogy Dr. S. Chan PSU

Social media continues to grow. Youtube followers: 94, Twitter: 76, Facebook: 966 likes, Instagram: 437 followers

Working on request form for event chairs and members to fill out when they want to upload videos to the OMTA channel. Please subscribe to the OMTA channel, and select the bell to be notified when new content is added.

Fliers and postcards available to share, avail at conference or by emailing Angela Kelly

G. Membership:

Mary Morganti read by Liz Willis

The current number of Active members is 535, an increase of 11 new members since January 2021.

There are 2 Associate members which is the same as January.

The number of Collegiate members dropped from January, 23 down to 17.

High School and Honorary members stayed the same, 3 and 26.

The number of Nationally Certified members increased slightly, from 112 to 116, or 19.76% of the membership, with 80.24 percent non-certified.

All new members have been listed in the Music News and welcomed by their District Presidents.

Membership by Districts is as follows:

At Large 1

Blue Mountain 8

Central Oregon 31

East Portland 126

Eugene 54

Lincoln County 14

Linn-Benton 29

Mid-Columbia 6

Rogue Valley 32

Salem 34

Tualatin Valley 77

Umatilla-Morrow 15

Umpqua Valley-South Coast 10

West Portland 197

H. Parliamentarian:

Bonnie Esbensen

No report

I. Public Relations:

Ashlee Young read by Liz Willis

Here is the vision statement that the committee (Sarah Ball, Ashlee Young, Laura Davis, and Andrew D'Antonio) expects will capture the strengths and past successes of OMTA while also nodding to the future goals and aspirations: "Musical Growth for All"

J. Publications:

Alexis Gibbons read by Susan Todd

The website is undergoing a large upgrade coordinated by Selina Mason and Caris Power working with Watermelon Web Works. These changes will happen: 1 -Every member will have their own unique log in, 2 - upgraded membership directory with search and filter features, 3 -

New cloud-based info making tasks much easier for the office administrators. Emails to members will come from the state when these website changes are ready to launch.

Music News – survey – decided to continue monthly publication, incorporate new features (see report) and confirmed that majority access newsletter via email link from office.

K. Syllabus:

Heidi Evans

2020-2021 Syllabus was entirely online, with about 21 adjudicators doing the bulk of the exams instead

of the normal 35. The Level X Virtual Recital is on the OMTA website.

By the numbers:

Piano Syllabus: 1909 students, 305 teachers

Strings Syllabus: 18 students, 5 teachers, 2 days

Jazz Syllabus: 7 students, 1 teacher, 1 day

Forms updated:

- Level X Recital likely to continue as virtual
- Level X Awards
- Virtual protocols forms plus instructions for PDFs and video submissions

Adjudicator Evaluation Form (starting Fall 2021)

Ongoing projects:

- Organ Syllabus: committee headed by Craig Hansen, asking for input from organists in OMTA.
- Voice Syllabus: hope to have available for this next year 2021-2022
- Piano Syllabus Repertoire Lists: updates to be completed this summer 2021 with an emphasis on diversity.

Music News will include Syllabus updates including safety protocols for in-person Syllabus and when those will begin. We don't know what next year will bring, but we know we have the tools in place to handle all circumstances.

Special Committees:

A. Grant Coordinator

Susan Todd

- The OMTA/OCF Nellie Tholen Grant provided nearly \$20,000 toward the expenses of this year's conference.
- A total of twenty programs were given to the eleven OMTA Districts outside the Portland Metro area this past year. All but one were given virtually. The roster for 2021-22 includes 26 presenters with 93 programs. Several new programs and presenters have been added. Eligible Districts may receive in-person and/or virtual presentations, depending on district preferences, funding and requested presenter's willingness to travel.
- Coordinating this amazing grant for the past seven years has been a pleasure. I look forward to seeing what the next coordinator will come up with. Watch the September Music News for a posting of this position if you are interested in applying for this wonderful position.

B. Virtual Protocols

Heidi Evans

Suggested Protocols for OMTA virtual events

For Adjudicated Events:

1. The teacher will send one email per student, with the student's name in the subject line, containing the following:
 - a) pdfs of the student's repertoire, labeled with composer and title.
 - b) YouTube links labeled with the student's name, composer, and title. These must be Unlisted (so anyone with the link can view it).
2. Teachers are urged to study the Technology "How to...." tips on our website.
3. Students can prepare their pdfs and videos, send them to the teacher, then the teacher will forward them to the adjudicator or event chair.
4. Photo/video release forms are available on our website.

For Recital-format Events:

1. YouTube Playlist can be created and shared using screen sharing on Zoom
Important: select "Unlisted" and "Not for Kids" when uploading, to enable the event chair to shuffle the order of the videos on the YouTube Playlist.
2. If videos are to be compiled into a continuous professional-looking video:
 - Videos can be sent to the editor using Google Drive or the free app called wetransfer.com (not a YouTube link)
 - Students could also save videos on a thumb drive and send it to the editor through the mail.
 - If the event committee decides to pay the video editor, those funds should come from entry fees.
3. Photo/video release forms are available on our website.
4. Video may be shared on OMTA's YouTube Channel - contact our Marketing Chair.

New Business:

A. Vision Statement

Andrew D'Antonio

Musical Growth for All Laura Davis, Ashlee Young, Andy D/Antonio and Sarah Ball served on an ad hoc committee to discuss: what do we do, what is our vision? We looked at what others have for their VS, then centered on the word growth – reflects our many projects. For All – we are a diverse organization – students, teachers, community members.

We're coming out of a really dark tunnel. This is a time to regroup, reflect and move forward. Hope this statement will lift us all.

B. District Presidents

Presented by Catherine Darnell and Michelle Alspach

A. Blue Mountain

Matt Cooper

Blue Mountain District remains at eight active members. Attendance at our Zoom meetings has been excellent. The main activities since the last board meeting in September have been Fall Syllabus, Baroque Festival, two workshops by Jennifer Wright, and a president's virtual visit and presentation by Sarah Ball.

We held Fall Syllabus over two days in October, with two teachers and twelve students participating, and Cindy Peterson-Peart as our adjudicator.

We are experimenting with holding our Baroque Festival earlier than usual, and so it was held November 14. 25 students registered and 25 performed, from four teachers' studios, adjudicated by Jennifer Wright. Three students will advance to the State recital. The earlier time frame resulted in a few glitches regarding registration with the state event on Leggiero, since registration wasn't open that early.

We enjoyed two Teacher Enrichment Workshops presented by Jennifer Wright in November: "Playing Perfectly: What it Takes to Practice and Perform Completely without Mistakes (or Fear of Mistakes)," and "Muse Whispering: Teaching Techniques that Make Composition Possible for Every Student." We also were visited in our January meeting by President Sarah Ball, who gave us a presentation on "How *Do* Children Learn? Constructivist Teaching Methods in the Music Studio."

We've implemented a policy that Photo Release Forms be submitted for each event at the time of registration, to make sure they are on file before group photos are taken. We've also discussed whether the district should purchase its own Zoom account, but decided instead to let each festival or event chair use their own Zoom account, and bill the district accordingly if needed. We've also had spirited discussions about the issue of whether memorization should or should not be required for certain events, such as our district festivals and Honors Recitals.

Summary: Steady at 8 members, held three festivals, a grant workshop and syllabus
Considering how to handle events next year, will schedule events as prior but check with OHA and OMTA guidelines

Future of our district is in question; Matt Cooper resigned as president (*update: Matt agreed to stay on and the district is committed to continue*)

Rebekah Carter chimed in on chat that the district will continue and is strong

53 in syllabus 31 in honors

B. Central Oregon

Janet Smith

We've made it through a very challenging year, complete with regular business meetings and programs, thanks to Zoom! Our stalwart and faithful members continued to support our group with their attendance and participation. Our annual Winter Festival student recital, with this year's theme of Impressionist/20th-21st Century music, was held in-person in March at a local church. Protocols of social distancing, mask-wearing, and disinfecting keys between performers were carefully observed. How wonderful it was to hear live music once again! Sadly, we have had to cancel our spring Ensemble Festival due to a recent spike in covid cases in Deschutes County.

Our monthly programs included "Keeping Students Engaged Between Lessons" presented by member Larry Rauch, a member-sharing session of our own motivational ideas, "Playing

Perfectly” presented by Jennifer Wright, and Sarah Ball’s “How DO Children Learn?” We hope to end the year with a June business meeting followed by an outdoor picnic. We’re all looking forward to seeing each other in person again after more than a year of isolation. Needless to say, we’re hoping for a return to normal in September. We are happy to welcome the OMTA State Conference to our beautiful area in June!

C. Eugene

Genevieve Mason

Our students' activities went on quite well since January. After our Baroque festival in February, when all students had to submit pre-recorded videos, and these were put on an iMovie played through You Tube, we experimented with a different format. For the Spring District recital in March, and the Contemporary Music Festival in April, students had the option to perform live through zoom, or to share their pre-recorded videos. The rendition varied from good to poor quality, depending on the families internet capacity. But most teachers appreciated this format which allowed the live enthusiastic audience to applaud each performer, and was closer to a “real” recital. Also, this format was less stressful for teachers, as they did not have to submit pre recorded videos two weeks prior to the festival. Also, as we did not have to pay for the technician who put the iMovies together, we had a financial benefit.

For our monthly meeting, we can notice a drop in the attendance. But our core of musical volunteers enjoyed instructive presentations:

Monday, January 11, 2021

Diversity and Anti-Racism in Piano Teaching: How to Navigate Historical Racial, Gender, and National Disparities in the 21st Century World

Monday, February 8, 2021

Pedaling Through the Ages—Cracking the Code: Historical Guidelines and Strategies for informed Performance

Presented by: Dr. Jill Timmons

Monday, March 8, 2021

Ebony and Ivory: American Composers from Copland to Ellington

Presented by: Dr. Matt Cooper

Monday, April 12, 2021

A Modern Pianist’s Journey Through Discoveries from the Fortepiano

Guest Speaker: Donna Gunn

On Wednesday, May 19, and Friday, May 21, Lara Downes led two piano master classes followed by discussion on the theme “Music by Female BIPOC Composers.” This was a collaborative project between the UO piano pedagogy department and the Eugene/Springfield district.

Our teacher showcase in May used the iMovie format again, and it was a happy event, with the participation of different teachers. So, we may have to remember that sometimes this format may be stimulating in some way. This event is usually a fundraiser, but we left that aspect aside this year.

For the next year, we are thinking of having two monthly meetings on Saturday, rather than Monday morning, to stimulate member's participation.

Financially, we have a deficit of about \$700 from last August. Taking into account that we didn't have our usual fundraisers, the Barnes and Nobles play-a-thon, and the Teacher showcase, and we did extra donations, I would say we did well for such a tough year. We are hoping to have live events back next September. Hopefully, we will maintain our financial balance. A big change next year is that we will have to pay room rental for our students' events. Our collaboration with the Unity of the Valley church, which let us have the facility for free, is over, as Classic Piano had to sell the piano that they were graciously loaning. I really tried to involve our district in the partial purchase of the piano, so we could have cheaper renting costs, and priority in reservation, but the idea was dropped. The good news is that Unity of the Valley figured out a way to purchase the piano. So there is still the wonderful Yamaha at the church, but we will have to pay rent if we want to keep events at this location. The savings accumulated due to the five years of free rent will help, of course. But the group will have to work with membership, and fundraising to keep us above deficit. As always, we need to get new volunteers involved.

D. Klamath Basin

Terri Horn

The district has dissolved as three members were not enough to support activities. The remaining members will join with Rogue Valley District. Great appreciation was expressed for OMTA's support in the district over the years.

E. Lincoln County

Rita Warton and Cathy Champion-Predmore

We have continued to meet monthly online, but plan our first in-person meeting on June 4th. Outside in Christine McKenney's patio area!! It will be our annual meeting but I do not anticipate any changes in leadership positions this year. Next year, I hope..

Our concert and workshop with Dan Immel was excellent and then with Crystal Zimmerman the following weekend, we were really impressed. So much happening online.

It looks as though the PAC may be opening up in September so I have told everyone to get practising as we could put on a Spotlight Concert in the fall if all goes well.

Looking forward to the State Conference in online Bend.

F. Linn-Benton

Rosanne Smith

A musically exciting 2021!

Baroque Festivals, both District and State were a very positive experience for our students.

Guthrie-Jenks Music Scholarship auditions were held in February . Students from Linn, Benton and Lincoln Counties are eligible to audition. Congratulations to the three winners:

Kai Freuh - \$2000

Abigail DeYoung - \$1000

Annalee Hiebert - \$1000

March was our Romantic Festival with one of our newest members pulling it together via Zoom as Chair of this event. A delight for all to see and hear.

Onward to May. Our students presented their best in the Syllabus piano program. Teachers reported that Adjudicators were encouraging and helpful throughout the day. Thank you!

The month of May also brought us our District Composition Celebration. Students composed and performed their unique pieces. It was good to hear them offer encouraging feedback to each other's compositions.

Our monthly meetings were enriched with the invaluable Nellie Tholen Grant program and the enlightening Sarah Ball hour. Our local teachers presented sessions with their professional insights and performances. We finished the year with an inspiring and energized 90-minute session with Christopher Oill guiding us through *Composition from Beginning to Completion*.

We look forward to our State Conference in June.

Happy Summer!

G. Mid-Columbia

Rebecca Gooch

We had a great March which included two fantastic workshops/masterclasses. Our first was with Jill Timmons "Pedaling Through the Ages" this is a highly recommended presentation! Alexander Tutunov provided a masterclass which was engaging for the students and equally engaging for the teachers.

We participated in the Syllabus program, however with only three teachers.

The rest of the year has been without event.

We are hopeful for a return to more student contact soon.

H. Portland East

Liz Willis

Looking back on this past year I am very proud of the members of East Portland District and especially grateful to my Executive Board. We have maintained our studios while learning many new skills in technology for virtual recitals, festivals, performance groups, and our district meetings.

Our last in-person meeting was March 9th, 2020. Since then, we have been meeting on zoom, with attendance levels that practically matched our in-person meetings. The district voted to revise our original Bylaws to accommodate changes in voting needed for virtual meetings at the February meeting.

East Portland's syllabus took place completely virtually with 174 students participating. The all-Portland Concerto Festival was a success, thanks to Momoko Muramatsu's efforts in quickly switching to a virtual platform. Since that Concerto festival, new members have volunteered on

committees that enabled the Classical, Baroque/Contemporary, and Romantic festivals to continue to be offered virtually for our students. This was a huge effort with a steep learning curve.

As I leave the office of President of East Portland, I treasure the memories of the many wonderful members that have volunteered to keep our new district functioning despite the upheaval of the pandemic.

I. Portland West

Irene Huang

New officers for upcoming year 2021-22: President, Elizabeth Caswell. President-elect, Holly Counts.

Four years ago I had the great privilege and responsibility to start my term as the president of the Portland District. Together with the board and input from our membership, we were able to make the difficult transition of reorganizing the Portland District into two smaller local associations—the East Portland District and the West Portland District. Over the past two years, I have served as the president of the newly formed West Portland District and the time has come for me to pass the baton to the president-elect Elizabeth Caswell who will be our new president starting July, 2021. We are happy and excited to have Elizabeth to lead the West Portland District. She will be joined by our new President-elect Holly Counts. Go Liz and Holly!

Looking back on a most challenging year of 2020-2021, we were able to continue hosting our popular period festivals, together with the East Portland District, using various online formats, as well as holding our district meetings and presentations online.

9/23/20 -- “Q&A for online teaching” by Cindy Petersen-Peart and Ruth Sadilek

10/14/20 -- “How to host and set up-up Syllabus Online Exams” by Heidi Evans

1/25/21 -- “Ornamentation and performance Practice” by The Sonatas of Scarlatti-- Dr. Matt Cooper

2/23/21 -- “Interdisciplinary Approach to Piano Pedagogy” by Dr. Elise Yun

4/27/21 -- “Diversity and Anti-Racism in Piano Teaching: How to Navigate Historical Racial, Gender, and National Disparities in the 21st Century World” by Dr. Stephen Lewis

5/26/21 -- “Johann Nepomuk Hummel: A Reconsideration” by Dr. Andrew Brownell

J. Rogue Valley

Michele Aspach

The Rogue Valley District has had its ups and downs, like everyone else, this past year. But we have hung in there, doing what we could to offer enrichment for our students and ourselves! I'd characterize our district as overall having an aversion to Zoom, yet we were able to have some Zoom meetings to keep in touch with each other and discuss possibilities.

The onset of 2021 began with more activities for us. In January, Dr. Alexander Tutunov gave a

wonderful master class on Zoom, which was a huge boost to all involved. He gave his all to each student (and didn't stop for even a break for about 5 hours) and as usual, we all learned from him.

In March, Thor Polson (one of our members who is well-versed in both classical and jazz) gave a program in person at a local church. The church had a limit to the number of people who could be there, but we did not go over that number. It was our very first in person program this year! The program was "Composing and Arranging in the Jazz Idiom." At the end one of our members said "This is exactly the type of information I need to help one of my students." It was great to meet in person!

In April we had the pleasure of having Susan Todd adjudicate our Syllabus exams (online). Although our number of students participating was much lower than other years, it was a wonderful motivator for the students who did participate. Susan's comments were very encouraging and constructive as well.

The Klamath Falls District has dissolved and members wished to were welcomed to become members of the Rogue Valley District. They therefore were able to still have their students adjudicated for Syllabus. We look forward to getting to know our new Klamath Falls members.

Also in April we were treated to another master class, this time with Dr. Matt Goodrich. He came all the way from Idaho to do this in person. Again, we used the same church, with the same limit to the number of people present. (Sadly, we could not advertise it because of the limit.) The program was "Integrative Performance Skills Master Class." It was wonderful to have a different approach for this master class. Again, students had an opportunity to get fresh input. All came away with new ideas about performing

In May, Dr. Tutunov once again adjudicated our Sonatina Festival. Last year it was online, but this year it was in person - once again at the same church. It was followed the next day with a recital at local music store Artistic Piano Gallery. Owner Eric Werner has always been generous in allowing OMTA to have events there without charging us.

Thor Polson has organized a benefit recital for June 12 - again at the same church! It will be a benefit for the church's scholarship fund for SOU music students. Some of our members will play and many of the fine students from SOU will also perform. Attendance will be limited. Our district has benefited greatly by the relationship we have with the SOU Music Department, thanks to Dr. Tutunov.

The year ends with our final meeting June 21, at a local park.

As always, many heartfelt thanks to the OMTA state officers and board for being very supportive to all OMTA members and unflinching in their spirit to keep the organization

K. Salem

Bethany Evans

I have not been the most active president this year due to many unforeseen circumstances. Thankfully, I have quite a few wonderful members who have gotten their jobs done well. Online Syllabus went well and we really enjoyed our presentation from Rebekah Carter on communication. This presentation got

some of the best feedback I've ever heard and I recommend all districts to host Rebekah if they haven't already.

One idea I had for membership recruitment came from a Facebook homeschoolers group. I noticed that quite a few parents were asking about music lessons and many teachers would respond who I didn't know. I would then message them about NFMC and OMTA. I don't know if any have joined yet, but there has been lots of interest and good conversations started.

Hoping to be better in 2021-2022!

L. Tualatin Valley

Kristin Cichoski

The beginning of the 2020-21 teaching year brought changes to the way we teach in our studios and run our district. We are so grateful for the leadership of Teresa Sealey in guiding the Tualatin Valley District through this challenging and memorable year. Our district meetings and presentations were all conducted via Zoom. The year also brought changes to the way we run our festivals. We limited our festivals to the Festival of Ribbons, the Composition Celebration, and the Baroque Festival; all were held virtually. We also had our Fall and Spring Syllabus evaluations as well as our Scholarship applicants virtually. We even had our annual Teachers' Recital and monthly playing class via Zoom! At a time when everything was different, we are grateful that our teachers and district leadership sacrificed and provided opportunities for students to prepare repertoire and participate in these foundational events.

Last year, we all learned from interesting presentations by Ramona Goddard, Leila Viss, Jennifer Wright, Lisa Marsh, and Dr. Matt Cooper. Next year, we have some wonderful meetings and presentations planned for our membership. We will hear from Dr. Joseph Hoffman, Crystal Zimmerman, Cindy Peterson-Peart, and Dr. Jill Timmons. We are looking forward to the changes that 2021-22 will bring and know that the 77 members of our district will meet the challenges ahead.

M. Umatilla-Morrow

Sarah Milburn

The Umatilla-Morrow District is doing good. We had several students participate in the composition celebration and our district choice recital was a Contemporary recital. We are all glad students were able to participate in syllabus by video conferencing. That was a great experience for all students who were able to participate. This summer we are planning to gather to watch the OMTA conference together.

N. Umpqua Valley-South Coast

Carolee Harbour

Since the last report, we had the opportunity to hear Dr. Thomas Otten and Emily Ross, courtesy of Nellie Tholen grants. And our president, Sarah Ball was our final speaker of the year. Although the meetings were all virtual, it didn't diminish the wonderful and varied learning experiences we received.

We brought our 2020-2021 year to a close with an encouraging up surge in our Syllabus numbers. We had 16 from our own district, and 4 from another district. The fact that it was virtual didn't seem to matter. People were glad to be able to resume syllabus after a Covid hiatus. We were privileged to have Dr. Crystal Zimmerman as our adjudicator.

Normally our last meeting is a potluck/teacher recital. But we decided to postpone that until July when we have our planning meeting for the next year, and also in the hopes that we might find a venue open where we could have at least a recital, if not lunch.

Announcements:

A. New Board Policy: **all in-person OMTA events will follow CDC and Oregon Health Authority Guidelines**

B. MTNA Conference March 26-30, 2022 in Minneapolis, MN

C. OMTA State Conference June 23-24, 2022 in Florence, Oregon

D. Announcements from the floor

Bill Crane PPI – invite collegial help OCF (Oregon Community Foundation) wants to know what *effect* we had – what change did we cause? Children are playing piano better, we ourselves as teachers are playing better and knowing more how to play/teach Bach, etc. Tell Bill the effect of what we all together have done in order to renew funding.

Susan Todd Honors Committee – also noted that Carolee Harbour was recognized at the banquet as Oregon’s 2022 Foundation Fellow Nominee.

Meeting Adjourned: 10:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Amie Belisle with notes by Susan Todd

Recording of live streamed meeting available at: <https://youtu.be/rtc6KD4vPMg?t=858>