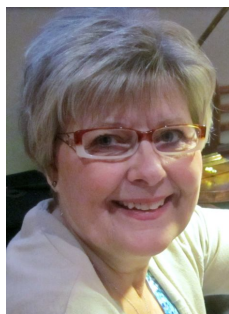


# The CLARION

VOL. LXVI, NO. 6

March, 2014

## President's Corner



Recently, a former student of mine sent me a New York Times article which discussed the link between music education and academic success. In this article, anecdotal examples included Condoleezza Rice, who trained to be a

concert pianist, and former Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan, who is also a professional clarinet and saxophone player. It seems that the more serious the music training, the bigger the success in other fields. And top level professionals in all fields draw a connection between their music study and their professional achievements. Just a few of the qualities they have that can be attributed to studying music are the ability to think creatively, work well with others (musical collaborations), and the development of acute listening skills.

This really isn't news to any of us. We have long known that what happens in our studios with students week after week after year after year, can affect our students' chances for success in life in measurable ways. And what about the immeasurable ways that music can add to our students' lives? Years ago I received a postcard from a former student who was taking college classes in Europe. She wrote to tell me she had seen a concert by the Labeque sisters. She wanted to know: "had I ever heard of them? These two ladies could *really* play well! It was *so* exciting!" I wanted to ask her the question, "Do you know that you and I are now in the same club?"

The NYT article is indeed exciting, but what is also exciting to me is that I have a student out there who was captivated enough by the article to send it to me. Isn't it wonderful that we all have sent

human beings out from our studios who are now recipients of good music, and the ideas and emotions that only music can express? And isn't it wonderful that their ability to receive and recognize these musical gifts helps make them humans of the highest order?

**Out and about....** I recently visited the Puyallup Valley Chapter. They describe themselves as "a pro-student chapter where everyone wins". This chapter organizes fun and creative winter recitals, and they love their Teacher's Roundtable forum, where everyone comes with questions, answers, and teaching tips to share. I also traveled to Portland, OR for our NW Division meetings and Division level MTNA Performance Competitions. Thanks again to **Jani Peterson, NCTM, NW Division Director-Elect** and **Mary Kaye Owen, NCTM** for their excellent organization of this event! Lastly, Seattle was the site for our annual winter Board of Directors meeting. It is such a treat to hear what our seven Districts are doing, and hear reports from many committee chairs as they carry out their service to WSMTA! We continue to be an organization with a mission to advance the educational goals of our teachers and students. Our Board was happy to send travel money to students competing in Portland OR. and we also will help those students competing in the MTNA National competition in Chicago in March. The Board also granted two "Small Chapter Grants": congratulations to **Clarkston-Lewiston Chapter** and to **Walla Walla Chapter**. These grants will help them to fund their educational workshops.

Our Website Committee continues to work at fine-tuning our website, and we must offer a huge "Brava!" to Adjudications Chair **Dorie Guidon**, who works tirelessly to see to it that "all systems are go" for each Chapter and each member as we break in a new system for running this huge educational program.

(Continued. on Page 3)

## Coming Events



January was an exciting month for the conference planning committee. The budget was finalized and approved by the WSMTA Board. Due to the generosity of our host institution, EWU, our conference fee is going to be significantly less than it has been in recent years, at a very reasonable \$135. This fee will not only include tickets to a solo piano concert by our guest artist, Theresa Bogard, and all other performances, events, and sessions, but also a special Luau during the Wednesday lunch hour. There will be optional additions – the opening banquet on Sunday evening, and box lunches for those involved in noontime planning sessions and meetings as well as for those who want to stick close to the Music Building in case of inclement weather. All meals served will include a vegetarian option. On the registration form, you will also see a check-off box for dorm rooms. This check off is to indicate your interest in obtaining one. Be advised that these rooms are extremely limited. There are just 25 available, so they will be distributed first-come, first-served – a great incentive for early registration for the conference. The rooms are \$20/night/person, double-occupancy, so discuss this option with your friends and travel-buddies, so that you can put their names next to yours as you register if you prefer to share a room with a friend. You will be notified well in advance of the conference if you will be getting a dorm room, ... (Continued. on Page 3)

## WSMTA & Clarion Information

The CLARION is published 9 times during each public school year: Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec., Feb., March, April, May, and June. It includes membership news and announcements, as well as pertinent news of the Music Teachers National Association.

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- ❖ WSMTA GENERAL INFORMATION
- ❖ MEMBERSHIP ADDRESS RECORDS
- ❖ WSMTA WEBSITE INFORMATION
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- Please submit articles to the Editor no later than the 1st day of the month preceding the publication date.

- Articles should be attached to an email message and will be accepted **ONLY** in the following file types: **MS Word 97 or later & Mac Pages**.

- **DO NOT USE ANY SPECIAL FORMATS OR INDENTS** other than ordinary paragraph returns.

- Indicate paragraph changes with a double space. Otherwise, use **SINGLE VERTICAL SPACING** and leave **TWO SPACES BETWEEN SENTENCES**.

**DO NOT SUBMIT ARTICLES EMBEDDED WITH HYPERLINKS.**

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Workshop List Chair, Dr. Deborah  
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## Membership

*Welcome New Members!*

**Bellingham Chapter**  
Rabia Magnusson

**Eastside Chapter**  
Karen Leung  
Joanna Tse  
Jing Xu

**Kitsap County Chapter**  
Charis Ifland  
Tobin Schindler

**Lake Washington Chapter**  
Carlin Ma  
Katie Wiederholt

**Seattle Chapter**  
Annastasia Workman



**Spokane Chapter**  
Mary Beck

**Tri-City Chapter**  
Julia Schamber  
Julianne Whitney

## President's Corner

(Continued from Page 1)

**On to Chicago!** I look forward to seeing many of you in Chicago! We have thirteen Washington students who will represent the Northwest Division in competition in Chicago. Our best wishes to them. Please let me know *if you have purchased a ticket to the Gala. I have reserved tables for Washington teachers.*

As we continue to provide a musical education for our students, perhaps the last of these dark winter days will brighten when we remember how this study ultimately enriches the lives of our students!

With warmest wishes,

*Laurie Eash, NCTM  
WSMTA President*

## Letter to the President

Ms. Laurie Eash,

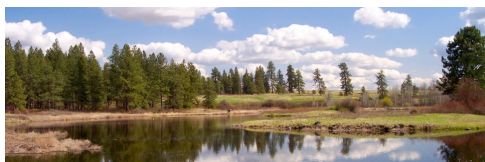
I hope this email finds you well. I have received the \$125 travel-reimbursement from WSM TA and will deposit it as soon as possible. Thank you!

Thank you also to WSM TA for its continued support of my activities as a pianist-composer over the past two decades. I am writing this email from Vienna, Austria where I am currently auditioning for graduate programs at several conservatories and hope to start school next fall. As I prepare to enter this next stage of musical development, I am happy to acknowledge the efforts of the many people who have made my achievements possible. I am so grateful to WSM TA for everything.

I look forward to seeing you in person at the State Convention this June.

Until then, all the best.

Eric McElroy



## Coming Events

(Continued from Page 1)



... so that you can make other housing plans if you don't receive one. The rooms are extremely basic, which means that you will need to supply your own linens and/or sleeping bag, pillows, and shower supplies, but the price cannot be beat!

We are very pleased to announce that Teresa Bogard has agreed to give her very acclaimed session on technique, entitled "Technical Principles/Trouble-shooting the Problems Right Away". This session will take place on Thursday. WSM TA members who have seen this session given in other locations around the country have raved about it. By all accounts, Dr. Bogard has an amazing eye and ear and can spot minute problems in alignment or misuse of hand, arm or body which, when corrected, can lead very quickly to technical improvement and better performance. Dr. Bogard will also be conducting two master classes on Wednesday. Teachers who have students wishing to be considered for participation in the two Wednesday master classes should forward the names, ages, years of study, and repertory of their students to the Conference Chairperson, Barbara Heckenlively. These should be sent to her email address, [heckpiano@yahoo.com](mailto:heckpiano@yahoo.com). Both students and teachers are welcome to participate in the technique trouble-shooting session on Thursday. Dr. Bogard would like to have 4 or 5 volunteers for the beginning of this session. If it goes as it has in other locations, very quickly many of the remaining audience members will be clamoring for an opportunity to go up to the piano on stage to get some wonderful technical advice.

**Incidentals:** There will be parking passes available for purchase. There are also plentiful meters around the Music Building, and free parking in the adjacent residential neighborhood. (Within 1-2

blocks of the Music Building). Look for information in next month's Clarion regarding additional housing options with Hotel contact numbers and email addresses.

Although the proposed Conference Schedule is still subject to change, here is the general scope of daily activities:

**Sun., June 22:** social hour, banquet, registration and Washington State Winners Recital.

**Mon., June 23:** opening ceremony, honors recitals 1 and 2, sessions on Smetana, Beethoven, honoring the body, the ABC's of teaching, demystifying performance anxiety, steam-punk piano, a practical approach to jazz improvisation, among others, and "Starry Nights", an evening performance by faculty and advanced students from EWU and the Spokane area.

**Tue., June 24:** "free" day, including some sessions for string players and vocalists, a handbell, performance practice tips for classic ragtime, a lecture-demonstration of piano music by women composers for 4, 6, and 8 hands, sessions on learning through our ears, honors recitals 3 and 4, and evening concert performance by our guest presenter, Theresa Bogard.

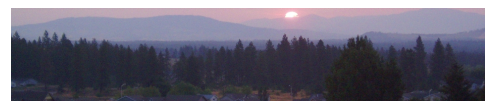
**Wed., June 25:** two masterclasses with Theresa Bogard, the final honors recital, the luau lunch, sessions on the technical development of the beginner, what lies beneath - an exploration of the bass line, teaching a comprehensive curriculum, copyright considerations for music teachers, some repeats of popular sessions, and an evening concert featuring the winners of the Young Composer project and the state commissioned composer's new work.

**Thur., June 26:** Theresa Bogard on "Technique, troubleshooting the problems", and closing ceremonies.

Interspersed with all of these events will be showcases, and opportunities to browse for music and/or other exhibits, as well as strolls through campus or exploring nearby Spokane.

The Spokane Chapter is very excited to be the hosting chapter of the Conference, and we look forward to seeing you there!

*Greg Presley, NCTM  
Publicity Chair  
WSM TA Conference 2014*



## IT'S RAFFLE/SILENT AUCTION TIME AGAIN!!!!

Be sure to mark your calendar and make your plans to attend "Inland Intermezzo", the WSMTA State Conference June 22-26. Each year those attending the conference enthusiastically participate in raising money for the WSMTA Scholarship Fund. The fun will continue this June as we hold another Raffle/Silent Auction to raise money for this very worthy cause.

In 1981 the WSMTA Scholarship Fund was established to provide travel scholarships for students. Today funds are awarded to students and teachers for continued music study, as prize money for the Outstanding Artist Competition and for travel expenses for the WSMTA winners to compete at the Northwest and the MTNA National Competition.

Our favorite way to raise funds for the WSMTA Scholarship Fund are the fabulous basket contributions from our 35 generous and creative chapters throughout the state of Washington. More funds are raised, in part, by cash donations in memory of former teachers, family, students and friends, businesses donating items and/or services to be raffled or auctioned at the conference. Ideas for donations may include food, wine, hand crafted items, art work, music books, CD's and DVD's, services such as workshops, lessons, tuning services, master classes, recitals, tickets to concerts, weekend retreats, etc. Your ideas for donations are always welcome.

You can also help the Scholarship Fund by asking your local music stores for a contribution or a donation. Your personal contact with businesses is very important in raising awareness of this fund.

So come to the Conference at Eastern Washington in Cheney June 22-26 entitled "Inland Intermezzo". Be sure to remember your checkbook or cash and don't forget those handy return address labels to stick on the backs of all of the raffle tickets you plan to purchase for all those prizes you plan to win!!!

See you in June and thanks to all of you for supporting the 2014 WSMTA Scholarship Fund.

*Cinda Redman NCTM*  
2014 Scholarship Fund Chairman  
[cindapiano@comcast.net](mailto:cindapiano@comcast.net)  
360-256-8888

## Education



The moss is growing again. I can see its yellowish mossy green color amongst the darker green of the (sparse) grass. As I look out the back patio door in the misting rain, it's obvious that it loves this type of weather. It does add a hope of freshness for the springtime yet to come. However, once the nicer weather gets here and I get out to walk on the "grass" I will say once again that the yard is 40 years old and needs some rejuvenating. That however takes work...and am I up to it? Is it worth it?

As with all yard projects, as I go through the hard, dirty, and hot work I'll decide over and over that it is frustrating, not worth it, going too slow, taking too long, and I probably shouldn't have started. However, if I can keep the end result in mind I will keep plodding along and before you know it I could have more grass blades than moss. By this time next year the grass could be "younger" and a rich shade of green.

Younger next year is a theme in our house right now—and not just for the lawn. Both my husband and I are approaching another "\*0" year, so we have been reading the books *Younger Next Year*. (There's one written for men and one for women.)

I wouldn't mind feeling younger next year...however, the premise of the book is you must exercise six days a week, 45 minutes a day, enough to get your heart rate to 65% of it's maximum. Based on my experience of my regular exercise schedule this past month of every other day workouts (that's only three or four days a week mind you), my premise is if you exercise for the six days in a row, and it doesn't kill you, you can't help but feel younger! The author gives lots of examples about "old" people who were sedentary, out of shape, and heading down the path to the wheelchair, but then committed to the six days a week exercise job and are now doing some amazing things. Since I would rather remain fit and not age (gracefully or otherwise) into my "olden years" exercise is becoming part of our "work routine."

How about your teaching life...is there yellow-green moss growing, or signs of

declining muscle strength and coordination in your studio? Maybe working through the national certification process is just what you need to have a "younger next year" studio. It will take work, time, energy, and commitment, just as any major goal. Are you up to it? Is it worth it? One year from now will you have a vibrant green growing lawn or a stronger more flexible physique—teaching wise?

In the words of one candidate who just submitted portfolios after a year of (hard) work... "I am very happy with my portfolios, learned so much, and would do it all over again..." This candidate is a "year younger" in the teaching mindset, having worked through a pretty comprehensive presentation of her teaching getting rid of some moss and flab in the process and growing some new green grass and healthy muscle!

So, how about you? Are you up for it? Check out the MTNA website ([www.mtna.org](http://www.mtna.org)) for information on the certification process. By this time next year you too could have a moss free younger-next-year teaching life!

Psssst...don't forget WSMTA has four certification grants of \$100 each to help with the cost of applying for certification. Awesome fertilizer or energy drink for helping with the rejuvenation project!!!

As always, don't hesitate to contact me if you have questions about certification or the grants.

*Karen Hollenback, NCTM*  
WSMTA Certification Chair  
425-228-1110  
[karen.hollenback@gmail.com](mailto:karen.hollenback@gmail.com)

## The Gentle Care of Adjudicators

When we prepare our students for adjudications and competitions, we are very focused on our students' accomplishments, and the hard work we have all invested in the event. What we need to remember, as well, is that the adjudicators/judges are also diligently involved in the evaluation process, and are making every effort to judge effectively. I think that we can all agree that art is subjective, and we're not dealing with ice skating where a perfect "10" is the goal.

We cannot legislate how teachers/parents/students/adjudicators behave, but I believe that a reminder is in order that we all need to behave respectfully. Judges are our FRIENDS, not the enemy. If a serious question arises as to particu-



lar comments or decisions of the judges, the appropriate procedure is to approach first the chair of the event, followed by the Education Board Chair and/or the WSMTA President. Your commitment to this procedure demonstrates professionalism at its highest and ensures that the competitions will be a pleasurable and positive experience for everyone involved in the competitions—students, colleagues, and adjudicators. Our adjudicators are TREASURES, and deserve our respect.

*Robin Chadwick, NCTM  
WSMTA Education Board Chair*

## Workshops, Workshops, Workshops!!!

Do you have a theme or topic that you'd like to share with others in the WSMTA community? Consider offering a workshop, then! The process is easy. (1) Fill out an application form, letting us know of your ideas, availability, and fees. (2) The application is reviewed and approved or rejected. (3) You are on a list available only to WSMTA members for consideration.

On the other hand, are you looking for new and interesting ideas for your chapter? Have a look at the workshop list at WSMTA.org. You'll need your MTNA membership number to get through the portal, but then you can see the whole list of topics given by master teachers from around the state and a few from beyond our borders. Over 200 workshops are listed on the site, with contact information, fees, and wonderful ideas to enrich your chapter.

Meanwhile, let me know if I can help you get started.

*Dr. Deborah Rambo Sinn, NCTM  
[drsinn@nikola.com](mailto:drsinn@nikola.com)*

## Enrichment

### IMTF Corner

Many years ago I attended a Suzuki workshop led by the talented and caring flutist Kenichi Ueda. Even as he corrected and offered suggestions to the students you could tell how much he cared about them as people. At the end of each coaching he and the student would bow to each

other. It was a gracious way to end the lesson.

"Hmmm.." I thought. "How can I replicate this in my own flute studio?"

Of course I love people bowing to me (just kidding!) but that seems over the top. Then I hit upon the idea of simply asking each student to say:

"Thank you for the lesson" at the end of each lesson. As students leave their first lesson I simply say, "And all of my students say thank you for the lesson." For the first month or so the moms may have to elbow them to remind them but after a few lessons students volunteer the greeting and after a few months of learning and having fun each student sincerely says:

"Thank you for the lesson!" and I say "You're welcome" or "Thank you for being such a great student!" or "Thank you for a good lesson!"

Students are also required to come in the door with a smile and say, "Hi Bonnie, how are you?" If they don't, I gently remind them. "Hi Parker how are you?" If Parker doesn't respond with the greeting to me I pointedly say, "And how are *you* Bonnie?" They soon get the hint.

Why are these greetings important? Because they set an atmosphere of respect in the studio. Manners, pride, and respect are inseparable. I want my studio to be a haven in a sometimes crass world. I also want my students to know that they are lucky to have lessons here and that just bringing the check isn't enough. Polite greetings are an easy way for students and teachers to show each other they value and respect the special relationship found in music lessons.

*Bonnie Blanchard-Romain, NCTM  
IMTF Chair*

## Program Reports

### The Historian's Scrapbook

Articles, artifacts and pictures are needed for the WSMTA Historian's Scrapbook. Of immediate interest are pictures and items from WSMTA events in 2013 and Conference 2013 to Present. Please help keep the WSMTA Scrapbook current for display at the 2014 Conference in Cheney. Send to:

*Marilyn Droz, WSMTA Historian*

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425-353-6025  
[drozmarilyn@msn.com](mailto:drozmarilyn@msn.com)

## Other Music Activities

### WSU Gershwin Gala at Benaroya Hall in Seattle! May 15, 2014 at 7:30pm Illsley Ball Nordstrom Recital Hall

*(Press release by WSU Professor Gerald Berthiaume. Questions/Info 509.432.3023 or [berthia@wsu.edu](mailto:berthia@wsu.edu))*

The Washington State University School of Music will host a *Gershwin Gala* at Benaroya Hall in Seattle on Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm. The performance of WSU faculty and students features the Symphonic Wind Ensemble under the direction of Danh Pham, and guest faculty artists Gregory Yasinitsky, Gerald Berthiaume, Julie Wieck, Dean Luethi, Chris Dickey, and Shannon Scott. Works performed include *Strike up the Band*, selections from *Catfish Row*, and *Rhapsody in Blue*. Join us for a memorable evening of music by George Gershwin and outstanding performances by students and faculty!

### The Daniel Pollack Master Class

Daniel Pollack returns in June for the 37th Master Class in the northwest.

This year it will take place in The Steinway Company's new northwest center to open in Bellevue. While the actual location is not yet available, the dates will be **June 3rd through 6th**.

For brochures or information contact me, 425-885-2839 or email: [nandrake@aol.com](mailto:nandrake@aol.com).

*Nancy Drake*



Streeter & Morrison Halls at EWU

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Item	Price	Quantity	Cost
WSMTA lapel pin (Silver on black)	6.00	_____	_____
Student Record Forms (25 sheets)	5.00	_____	_____
Statement Forms (50 sheets)	3.75	_____	_____
Musicianship Examinations Handbook	7.50	_____	_____
WSMTA Gift Certificate (May be used for any local, district or state event)	10.00 min.	_____	_____

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Lanyard for name tags	3.00	_____	_____
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Credit requirements			
Request for Credit			
Applied Music Study Report			

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Send checks made payable to WSMTA, to:

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Olympia, WA 98516

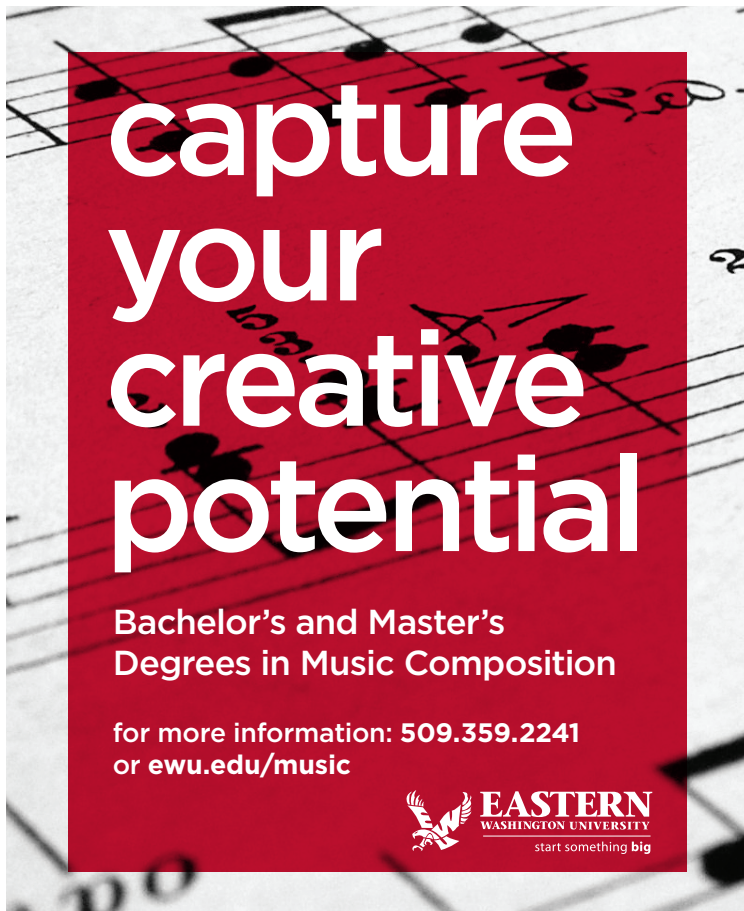
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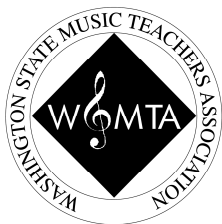
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## ***DATES 'n DEADLINES***

**March 22-26: MTNA Conference in Chicago.**

**April 5: District I Non-keyboard Competition.**

**April 13: District I Honors Recital.**

**April 20: Competition recital results due to Honors Recital Chair, Clarion editor, & Exec. Mgr.**

**April 20: Last Day for Adjudications.**

**June 22-26: WSM TA Conference at EWU**

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- ◆ **Preliminary Conference Schedule.** (page 3)
- ◆ **The Gentle Care of Adjudicators.** (page 4)
- ◆ **Workshops, Workshops, Workshops!!!** (page 5)

**Plan now to go to the  
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