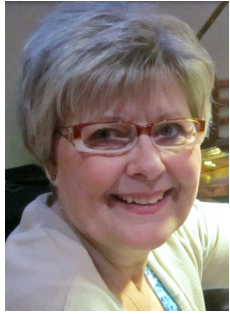


# The CLARION

VOL. LXVII, NO. 9

June, 2015

## President's Corner



How could two years have flown by so *fast*? Two years ago, I was being given information on "How to be President". Forms to sign, letters to write, a signature stamp to purchase (you don't really think I signed

all those Adjudication Certificates do you? ☺) There were many questions on my part, and many answers from so many people, mostly from **Dianne Johnston, Judy Price** and **Patti Robertson**. These three continually kept me on track, gave great wisdom, and had infinite patience! Many thanks to you!

And now, two years later, I have nearly finished my term as President of Washington State Music Teachers Association. What an honor it has been! A lot of administration work at my desk was mixed with much travel and meeting many people. I have grown as a person, and I am deeply grateful for this experience.

What have I learned in the last two years?

- I have learned that we are a community of over a thousand amazing men and women who have dedicated their lives to quality teaching, to the arts, and to the artistic welfare of their students. These members are professionals as they commit themselves to serving their local associations (our chapters).
- I have learned that many of these members also step out and make themselves, with all of their talents, available to serve on the state level. Our WSM TA is the sum of all of these parts.... Board of Directors, District Vice Presidents, Education Board members, many Committee members, and our membership as a whole.

- We only function as a result of the work of these people. It bears mentioning again that we have 69 Board and committee positions that when filled, provide all of the many programs coming out of WSM TA and MTNA.

- As a result of traveling to all of our chapters, I have seen the impact WSM TA makes on the local level! I met recipients of WSM TA grants and scholarships. I listened in on meetings where the Adjudication and Musicianship Exams programs were planned, and I also visited with members about the importance of taking advantage of our WSM TA conferences each year.

- I was fortunate to attend MTNA meetings in Cincinnati each year, where I learned more about this organization, and became more aware of their dedication to serving over 25,000 members. We can be proud that Washington State has provided many leaders to MTNA as well. I also represented WSM TA at two MTNA conferences, and was so proud to hear our national finalists compete!

*(Continued on Page 3)*

## BRAVO!

### Congratulations WSM TA Musicianship Examinations High Honors

#### Kitsap County

#### Teacher: Students (Levels)

*Sally Carey:* Reed Sanders (2)

*Georgene Corey:* Cordelia Loyd (5)

*Leslie Devine:* Annie Peterson (3); Ellie Peterson (5); Samantha Stewart (3); Willow Stewart (1)

*Debra Florian:* Makenna Bates (8); Sydnee Hogan (3); Hannah Meehan (4); Greta Reyde l (5)  
*Claire Ross* (3); *Jack Ross* (7); *Summer Sanders* (4); *Lydia Sedy* (8)

*Melanie Harris:* Rae Hyra (1); Jessica Radford (5)

## Coming Events

IT'S HERE!!



"Centennial Sounds"

*The First 100 Years of WSM TA*

1915 – 2015

It's hard to believe that after two years of planning, the conference is almost upon us. We've journeyed through the history of our association and now it's time to enjoy a celebration of both our past and our future!

Something a little different - there will be an "Awards Ceremony" before the Dinner Cruise. This will honor new members into our Hall of Fame: Paul Twedt and Annabelle Wall; The 2015 Honorary Life Member, Margee Webster, NCTM; Announcement of the *Chapter of the Year Award*; and a new presentation to honor all the WSM TA past presidents. Everyone is welcome to join us on June 24<sup>th</sup> from 6 – 7pm, to cheer on all these well deserving members!

It's not too late to buy tickets for the *Dinner Cruise*. You can purchase tickets with your registration or separately up until June 15<sup>th</sup>. There will be entertainment and good food! Hopefully good weather will shine down so we can enjoy the water and scenery. Most of all, it will be a wonderful time to spend together!

Please carefully read the article on the parking situation. You can find directions and all information on the WSM TA Conference web page.

*(Continued on Page 3)*

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## 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.

### WSMTA Executive Office

- ❖ WSMTA GENERAL INFORMATION
- ❖ MEMBERSHIP ADDRESS RECORDS
- ❖ WSMTA WEBSITE INFORMATION
- ❖ CLARION ADVERTISING

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copy at [www.wsmta.net](http://www.wsmta.net)?**

Email Exec. Mgr. at  
[WSMTAoffice@comcast.net](mailto:WSMTAoffice@comcast.net)

**IMPORTANT NOTICE: The USPS  
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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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**Ed. Board Members, Ex-Officio**  
Laurie Eash, NCTM (see President)  
Dorie Guidon (see Adjudications Chair)  
Judith Price, NCTM (see Exec. Mgr.)

## Membership

### Welcome New Members!

**Eastside Chapter**  
Xing Jin

**Olympia Chapter**  
Eunhyo Woo

**Seattle Chapter**  
Mary Kantor  
Nicholas Iverson

**Whidbey Island Chapter**  
Anna Davis

**Yakima-Ellensburg Chapter**  
Naomi Johnson  
Angela Soffe

## Attention Chapter Presidents

I'd like to remind you of the chapter presidents' meeting at our conference on Thursday, June 25, from 11:30 to 1:00 pm. Enjoy lunch while we meet in the Oyster Room section of the conference hall

If you cannot participate, please send a representative from your chapter. You will receive materials from our Executive Manager and we will discuss pertinent issues.

See you there!

Laurie Eash, NCTM  
WSMTA President

## President's Corner

(Continued from Page 1)

I have seen in the past two years how important our professional organization is to us in our teaching and how beneficial it is to our students! We have awarded student study grants, and helped some students by waiving Adjudication fees. We gave six chapters money for Chapter Growth Awards. We granted fee waivers to teachers in need and established a "Be-nevolent Fund" for future weather related emergencies. We honored teachers as Hall of Fame recipients and Honorary Lifetime Membership. We provided programs to our teachers such as Adjudications, Musicianship Examinations, and Young Composer Project. We affiliated ourselves with MTNA in providing the state level of the MTNA Performance and Composition Competitions, and also offered to our teachers and students our own Outstanding Artist Competitions. AND...with leadership from our local chapters, we present an outstanding Conference every year! You will not want to miss this year's 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration Conference!

**Out and about...** Recently I visited **Okanogan County Chapter**. Students from this chapter provide music onstage at the County Fair each year, and also perform at Christmas Bazaars. (How's that for making WSMTA visible to the public?) **Wenatchee Valley Chapter** is proud to have spearheaded fundraising efforts in Wenatchee to buy a new piano for community use. I was impressed that their officers are called "Leadership Team" and indeed, they work together to make many things happen! I also enjoyed a visit to **Bellingham Chapter** where I learned about their Music Olympics, and Halloween Recital, complete with costumes. The **Tri City Chapter** was very welcoming. I learned about their very generous scholarship programs and met a number of instrumental and voice teachers in their chapter! Chapters that I will visit too late for this newsletter's deadline are: **Mt. Rainier Chapter**, **Tacoma Chapter**, and the **Eastern Washington University Student Chapter**. I very much look forward to meeting these teachers and learning about the creative ways they provide programs for their students and teachers! As this last year of my term comes to an end, I thank each and every one of you for so

graciously hosting me for visits to your chapters.

As our teaching year comes to an end, and we all are rewarded with some type of break, I look forward to seeing many of you at our Conference in June. I also wish you time for rest, and recreation.

Thanking you all for the inspiration you are to your students and their families,

*Laurie Eash, NCTM  
WSMTA President*

### Chapter Visits: A Brief Message from your President-Elect, Janice Smith

Your next WSMTA President is a vegetable gardener. I like to grow edible plants and I especially like getting dirty. I'm not afraid to get my shoes muddy, remove stones and tree roots, spread compost and pull weeds. I anticipate garden season by strengthening my back, shoulders and glutes. During the gardening process I develop callouses and acceptance of ants, centipedes and spiders. Every year in the garden is a learning experience and I develop new strategies for improving yield, preventing disease and minimizing work and waste.

So what's this have to do with WSM-TA? During my visit to your chapter will you learn about WSM-TA programs and benefits? Of course. But I want you all to know I'm getting ready for more than just an informational presentation.

I want to learn and discuss your chapter and member issues. Every chapter has specific problems – what are yours?

Anxious about member recruitment?  
Frustrated with finding volunteers?  
Angry about recent changes with adjudications or competitions?

These problems create disease, work and waste. I look forward to the challenge of increasing yield, creating fertile soil for volunteers, and replacing anger with satisfaction.

Please contact me ahead of time with your specific concerns. The more I know, the better I can prepare. As a gardener and your next president I have learned to:

1. Have vision and dream big.
2. Be willing to do the dirty work.
3. Be very, very patient.
4. Accept that many things are out of my control.
5. It's impossible to do alone.

6. Be grateful.

I'll bring my toolkit: strength, grit, creativity, persistence and patience. I'll leave the muddy shoes at home.

*Janice Smith  
WSMTA President-Elect*

## Coming Events

(Continued from Page 1)

**Kitsap Conference Center**  
*Bremerton Harborside*  
100 Washington Avenue

**Hampton Inn & Suites**  
**Bremerton**  
150 Washington Avenue



Conference Site (photo taken at the 2008 Conference). Background: Sinclair Inlet, new boat harbor, Seattle-Bremerton Ferry. Foreground: Bremerton Conference Center. Immediate left of photo: Hampton Inn.

### **\* IMPORTANT PARKING INFO \***

There is a large parking garage on the corner of Washington and 2<sup>nd</sup>, under the Hampton Inn, the Conference Center and Anthony's Restaurant. **Conference attendees MUST park on the GREEN level 2 or RED level 3 only. You will need to select "Conference Center Parking" at the pay station located next to the elevator. A special rate of \$4/day has been arranged through the Kitsap Conference Center and City of Bremerton. If you park on any other level or level that says Hampton Inn, you will be charged \$7/day.**

To find driving directions from the north, south or ferry, go to the WSM-TA Conference web page at:

<https://wsmta.org/teacher-programs/conferences/wsmta-conference>.

## ***"It's in the Score!"*** **Conference Session** **by Alan Chow**

"It's in the Score!" The title comes from something I say almost every day of my teaching life! This lecture will provide guidelines for helping students determine character in the music by observing and recognizing the clues given to us by the composer in the score. The goal is to lead the student to a more independent style of learning. These general principles will then be used to explore Schumann's *Papillons* in greater detail.

***Teachers are encouraged  
to bring their personal scores  
to follow along.***

## **Getting to Know Nelita & Alan!**

As a finale to our conference, don't miss the opportunity to learn more about our Guest Artists. Peter Mack will be our host in leading a discussion and will be happy to take questions from the audience. The topics could be about their musical careers, teaching philosophies, or advice to teachers and students. As two top notched teachers, I am sure there are many insights they would be happy to share. All you have to do is ask!



As a tease as to what is to come, Nelita wanted to share the following story:

*"Early in my teaching career, I taught for several summers at Interlochen. I was fortunate, during several of those years, to work with identical twins, Alan and Alvin Chow. What a remarkable experience it was to teach those exceptionally gifted boys! During the summer after their junior year in high school, they asked me for some advice about music schools, as they were then considering where they should earn their Bachelor's degree. I offered what I knew about several schools of music, while*

*they took careful notes. After returning home, they discussed with their parents what they had heard from me. I was later told that their father said, "You mean she (meaning me) didn't mention her OWN school?" They told him I hadn't. His response? "Well, then you should study with her." That has to be one of the luckiest days of my life. It is difficult to describe what a wonderful experience it was to work with these extraordinary young men during their undergraduate years at the University of Maryland. Not only are Alan and Alvin extraordinary musicians, but also highly principled in all aspects of their lives. What a special treat it is for me to be "sharing the stage" with Alan at the WSM-TA 2015 Conference!"*

And what a special treat for us to have both Nelita and Alan sharing in our celebration!

*Jani Peterson, NCTM  
2015 Conference Chair*

## **Calling all Young Professionals!**

Please join us for a reception at the conference in Bremerton! It will be a casual and relaxing time to get to know others in their 20's and 30's from around the state. One of the many benefits to attending the WSM-TA conference is the chance to develop connections that would not otherwise be made, so take advantage of this opportunity to connect. Stop in on Tuesday evening between 7:00-7:30 pm before Alan Chow's concert and say hi. I look forward to meeting you!

*Stephanie White, NCTM  
Young Professionals Reception Hostess*

## **Conference Meetings**

***Get your breakfast and join the  
following chairs for morning meetings!  
Coffee will be provided.***

**Wednesday, June 24 8AM**

- *Independent Music Teachers Forum*  
Bonnie Blanchard-Romain, NCTM

- *Musicianship Examinations*  
Karen Scholten

**Thursday, June 25 8AM**

- *Adjudication Chapter Chairs*  
Dorie Guidon

- *Adjudicators*  
Jeffrey Savage, NCTM

***Fill up your lunch plate and join  
these noon time meetings!***

**Wednesday, June 24 12:00PM**

- *Certification*

Karen Hollenback, NCTM  
"How to Certify in One Year (or less!)"

**Thursday, June 25 11:45AM**

- *Chapter Presidents &  
District Vice Presidents*  
Laurie Eash, NCTM

## **THANK YOU!**

A BIG thank you ahead of time to all those working behind the scenes to insure a successful conference. There have been so many wonderful people jumping in to help. It truly has been a team effort!

If you haven't registered yet there is still time. We would love to have you join us!

*Travel safely and we'll see you in Bremerton!!*

Conference Committee:  
*Jani Peterson, NCTM  
Dianne Johnston, WSCTM  
Mary Kaye Owen, NCTM  
Judith Price, NCTM*

## **2015 Young Composers Project**

This year, 41 teachers submitted 114 student compositions in the 2015 WSM-TA Young Composers Project. Our adjudicators were Dr. Emily Doolittle, Kari Medina, Dr. Steve Nehrenberg, Valerie Roubos, Dr. Robert Spittal, and Dr. Greg Youtz.

Though education is the primary focus of the Young Composers Project, our adjudicators do select winners and these young composers perform their works at the WSM-TA State Conference each June in a combination recital with the WSM-TA Commissioned Composer of the Year.

This year's Young Composers/Commissioned Composer of the Year Recital is Thursday, June 25, 2015, at 4:45 PM (Kitsap Conference Center, Bremerton).

## **Education**

### **CERTIFICATION CORNER**

I'm counting down the days until WSM-TA's 100th birthday celebration.

I hope you are making plans to attend the opening session. We will be honoring all of this year's newly certified members including our three newest NCTMs: **Cathy Baylor, NCTM (Edmonds)** in piano; **Meg**

**Stecker-Thorsen, NCTM (Edmonds)** in voice; and **Diane Layton, NCTM (Kitsap)** in piano.

If you have questions about the certification process, be sure to join us for a working lunch on Wednesday, June 24th at 11:45 am. You really can complete the certification process in a year.

WSMTA has five certification grants available to assist you with the MTNA certification application fee. If you are interested be sure to contact me to find out about the short application process.

Since this is my final column for the Certification Corner I want to say "Thank you!" from the bottom of my heart. When I was asked to serve as WSMTA Certification Chair six years ago I had no idea how rewarding it would be! Our paths have crossed in various ways and in many different places. Together we explored new ideas, asked questions, found solutions, agreed, disagreed, shared a meal or two, and grew as teachers and musicians. I will be forever grateful, most of all, for your friendship.

I will continue to be available if you need a word of encouragement to begin, continue or complete the certification process. And, just as all of WSMTA's leaders have been there when I had questions about "the job" as certification chair, I will be there to support your new WSMTA Certification Chair **Rose Freeman, NCTM (Spokane)** as she begins her work at the end of the June conference.

See you soon!

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

## Enrichment

### MusicLink

MusicLink--where we create musicians--one student at a time. Recently several Washington state teachers have been recognized for their service to teaching students that might not be able to take lessons otherwise. I wish to applaud these teachers! Linda Butler, Marcia Wilke, Brandy Pancoast, and Verna Wagner for serving from 10-14 years received the MusicLink Teachers of Distinction. Heather Forbes, Ellen Pickell, and Ilene Tyler for serving 5-9 years and were recognized into MusicLink's Hall of Fame recognition! Congratulations and Thank you!! MusicLink relies on the simple idea of linking an eager student with a caring teacher and watching this special relationship grow through musical training over many years. The success of the program relies on the commitment of our teachers to make a difference in the lives of these students through music.

If you have a student you are giving a scholarship to or would like to, consider forming a relationship with MusicLink. If you know of a student that needs this kind of teacher but you can't do it, personally, please have them apply. If you have any questions, please contact me at [Karen@musicalnotestudio.com](mailto:Karen@musicalnotestudio.com)

*Karen Monroe, WSMTA  
MusicLink Coordinator*

## Reviews

### MTNA Conference

The MTNA Conference in Las Vegas was absolutely outstanding--three amazing concerts with Sir James and Lady Jeanne Galway, the Canadian Brass, and Ann Schein, plus wonderful master classes, sessions, and, of course, the publisher showcases. It was so hard to make a decision as to which ones to attend since 4 showcases are presented twice daily! Then there are the exhibits!! One of my first choices was to attend the Royal Conservatory (Toronto) unveiling of its new **Celebration Series, 2015 Edition**. Marvin Blickenstaff, Past President Frances Clark Center for Keyboard Pedagogy, writes, "Teaching from the Celebration Series is a great pleasure. Each piece in the series has been carefully selected for its musical value and sound editorial practice guides students to informed, stylistic performances."

The Piano Repertoire books from Preparatory A to Level 10 provide a wide variety of the best in literature from all periods. This revision includes over 25 US composers, many more than the previous edition. The twentieth century repertoire includes a wide variety of styles including jazz and blues. One outstanding inclusion are Level 1 and 2 Inventions to help students begin to understand and play contrapuntal music. Level 1 includes "Young Ludwig Exploring" by Forrest Kinney! The **Celebration Series** should be in every teacher's library.

Another outstanding showcase was given by G. Schirmer, Inc, introducing their new series, **The 20th Century**, 5 levels from elementary through upper-intermediate levels (distributed by Hal Leonard). This series was compiled and edited by Richard Walters, editor, and includes historical information on the composers, and practice and performance tips for each piece. In addition to including well-known composers such as Bartok, Kabalevsky, Prokofiev, and others, a number of prominent American composers are included, such as George Antheil, Samuel Barber, Paul Creston, Alan Hovhaness, and Robert Muczynski. These books will help teachers introduce contemporary music in a logically sequenced order to elementary students and help them begin to appreciate and develop a musical taste for the wide variety of sounds in twentieth century music. As a whole, the pieces are shorter in length which allows today's busy students to learn some of this essential repertoire.

*Phyllis Pieffer, NCTM, Former MTNA & WSMTA President*

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## FINAL UPDATE

# WSMTA 2015 Conference Schedule *Centennial Sounds ~ The First 100 Years of WSMTA* Kitsap Conference Center, Bremerton, WA



### Sunday – June 21

1:00PM Ed Board Meeting Hampton Inn

6:00 Awards Ceremony  
7:00 Board the *"Spirit of Seattle"* Marina Docks  
7:30 – 10:00 Banquet: Cruise/Dinner on the **Spirit of Seattle**  
(No host bar 7:00; underway 7:30)

### Monday – June 22

8:30AM BOD Meeting Hampton Inn

### Tuesday – June 23

11:00AM Conference Registration  
12:00PM Exhibits Open  
1:00 – 2:00 Opening Session  
2:00 – 2:15 BREAK  
2:15 – 3:15 **Nelita True:** *"Please Don't Play in Time" Part 1*  
3:15 – 4:00 BREAK  
4:00 – 4:50 **Michelle Mielke:** *"Apps!!" Software Applications (apps) in teaching*  
**Yelena Balabanova:** *"The Power to be Nervous" Overcoming performance anxiety*  
**Joann Richardson:** *"Vital Organ Skills" It's more than just the feet*  
5:00 – 6:30 Honors Recital #1  
6:00 Registration & Exhibits Close  
*Dinner On Your Own*  
7:00 – 7:30 Young Professional's Reception (Hampton Inn)  
8:00 **Alan Chow Recital with Reception**

### Wednesday – June 24

8:00AM Registration Opens  
8:00 – 9:00 Coffee Meeting: IMTF, ME  
9:00 Exhibits Open  
9:15 – 10:15 **Alan Chow:** *"It's in the Score!" Part 1*  
**BREAK (15 min. or 30 min.)**  
10:30 – 11:20 **Deborah Rambo Sinn:** *"Practical Interpretation: Thinking, Planning, Playing"*  
10:45 – 12:15 Honors Recital #2  
**BREAK (25 min. or attend last of HR or ?)**  
11:45 – 1:00 LUNCH  
**Karen Hollenback:** *"How to Certify in One Year (or less!)"*  
1:00 – 2:15 **Nelita True:** Master Class  
2:15 – 2:30 BREAK  
2:30 – 3:30 **Alan Chow:** *"It's in the Score!" Part 2*  
3:30 – 4:00 BREAK  
4:00 – 5:30 Honors Recital #3  
4:00 – 4:50 **Jensina Oliver:** *"Demystifying Rhythm and Meter"*  
6:00 Registration & Exhibits Close

### Thursday – June 25 (Non-Member Free Day)

8:00AM Registration Opens  
8:00 – 9:00 Coffee Meeting: Adj. Chairs/Adj.  
**Showcase - Glory St. Germain**  
*Ultimate Music Theory*  
9:00 Exhibits Open  
9:15 – 10:15 **Nelita True:** *"Please Don't Play in Time" Part 2*  
10:15 – 10:30 BREAK  
10:30 – 11:30 **Nelita True:** *"Your First Lesson"*  
11:30 – 1:00 LUNCH  
Chapter Presidents & Dist. VP's  
1:00 – 2:15 **Alan Chow:** Master Class  
**Margaret Pressley:** *"Stringed Instrument" Strategies to teach the 'Five Basic Articulations' and 'Relaxing into Speed'*  
2:15 – 2:30 BREAK  
2:30 – 4:00 Honors Recital #4  
2:30 – 3:20 **Judith Schoepflin:** *"Intermediate Piano Students Favorite Hidden Gems from the Modern and Contemporary Era."*  
3:30 – 4:30 **Margaret Pressley:** *"What does it take to train a well-rounded, confident, technically adept violinist?"*  
4:00 – 4:45 BREAK  
(or 4:15 – 4:45 BREAK)  
4:45 – 6:15 YCP/Comm. Composer Recital (Gay Saanterre)  
6:00 Registration & Exhibits Close  
*Dinner On Your Own*  
7:45 Winners Recital

### Friday – June 26

8:00AM Registration Opens  
9:00 – 9:50 **Kristina Henckel:** *"Tone and Technique" Concepts based upon Lhevine and Neuhaus*  
**Shala Gunnells/Angela Wentz:** *"The Architecture of Music: Structuring Your Teaching Around Brain Research and Rhythm" Tempo, rhythm and tone - how your brain learns it*  
10:15 – 11:00 Closing Session  
11:00 – 12:00 **Getting to Know Nelita & Alan**  
*With Peter Mack*

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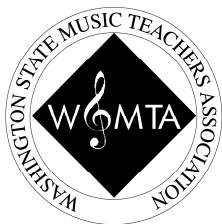
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## ***DATES 'N DEADLINES***

**June 21: Education Board Meeting, Kitsap Room, 1 PM, Hampton Inn.**

**June 22: Board of Directors Meeting, Kitsap Room, 8:30 AM, Hampton Inn.**

**June 23-26: WSMTA 100th Anniversary Conference**

**Sept. 16: MTNA & OAC registration deadline.**

**Nov. 13-15: MTNA Performance & Outstanding Artist Competitions at UPS.**

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at [www.wsmta.org](http://www.wsmta.org)  
to see The CLARION in full color!

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***SEE YOU AT THE CONFERENCE!***