

# The CLARION

VOL. LXVIII, NO. 1

Sept., 2015

## President's Corner



Kara, one of my 7<sup>th</sup> grade students, walked into her lesson, and was surprised—I had moved the piano. She stood there for a few seconds looking around then said, “You moved the piano. I

don’t know if I can play my pieces now.” And true to that, she struggled for the entire lesson. I made a change to the physical layout and the expected routine, and it caused distraction and mental distress. I was a bit surprised, although pleased, that a middle-school age student would experience such a reaction since they usually profess boredom with life (and especially the routine, weekly piano lesson). Part of my purpose in moving the piano was to cause a reaction, create a distraction and as a result enliven and energize the teaching environment.

Today, you are reading a “President’s Corner” by your new president and I’m hoping to do the same for WSMTA. Kara’s lesson in essence was not changing, nor is the substance or quality of WSMTA changing with my leadership. WSMTA has entered its 101<sup>st</sup> year having built a structure of professionalism that will endure for another 100 years. The foundation and structure is strong, but with slowly declining membership and participation, a bit of updating to the color scheme and appearance is necessary in order to increase appeal and relevance. How will that happen?

During the next 2 years, you will see a focus on membership, participation and change. You may have read in the June Clarion that as a gardener I appreciate and understand the use of tools. I have a great team of colleagues with the Board of Directors, Education Board, and the many event and committee chairs. We will all ...

*(Continued on Page 3)*

## BRAVO!

### Congratulations WSMTA Musicianship Examinations High Honors

#### Bellingham

##### Teacher: Students (Levels)

*Dorie Guidon:* Noah Chen (3); Jian Gunn (2); Jessa Parfet (1); Lucy Sun (6); William Vulic (5)

*Judith Widrig:* William Zhang (7)

*Kim Bowman:* Danny Gibson (7); Armelle Lee (3)

*Lorraine Earle:* Alex Denoyer (2)

*Andrea Rackl:* Liam Connor (5); Roisin Connor (5); Jonah Salomon (4); Michael Zander (3)

#### Okanogan County

##### Teacher: Students (Levels)

*Kathleen Christensen:* Kennadee Irving (2); Eva Robeck (2); Grace Worden (2)

*Roz Nau:* Josh Bello (3); Joseph Schell (5); Brennon Ramsey (6)

*Lois Rhoads:* Julie Bello (1); Jessica Heinlen (2); Mandy Wilson (3)

*Sandy Sheets:* Meshayla Gardinier (1)

#### South King County

##### Teacher: Students (Levels)

*Karen Hollenback:* Sierra Irvine (1); Emily Luong (3); Arielle Pioquinto (4); Grace Zhang (5)

*Steve Nehrenberg:* Catalina Ho (1); Landon Phan (2); Kellie Teramoto (2); Kellie Teramoto (2); Thao Ly Nguyen (2); Brian Perkins (2); Megan Stein (9)

*Mary Kay Owen:* Briwna Chan (4); Destinee Craft (5); Dana Rin (3)

*Abby Hyde:* Heather Forbes (7)

#### Mt. Rainier

##### Teacher: Students (Levels)

*Erin Oliver:* Micah Wolfrom (2); Summer Barnett (3)

*Sharon Beattie:* Maren Nealon (1); Lauren Sherrod (1); Anna Mark (2); Kaylee Hirata (2); Noah Day (4); Sophia Beattie (5)

*Marilyn Jacobson:* Caden Dahl (1); Rachel Nenson (2); Tessa Christensen (2); BaoVy Phan (3); Daniel Abraham (4)

*(Continued on Page 4)*

## Coming Events



### WSMTA Leadership Seminar September 26-27, 2015

#### Hilton Garden Inn – Yakima, WA

Join us in Yakima for an energizing weekend that will help you develop strategies to grow your chapter and build enthusiasm among your members!

Kenneth Christensen, NCTM, Immediate Past President of MTNA, will be our guest facilitator. Ken began his leadership involvement as a local president in Bozeman, Montana more than 20 years ago. He understands the challenges and rewards of membership at all levels of MTNA and is well-qualified to address your needs and concerns as leaders in our organization.

“Membership recruitment and retention were major topics of importance during my MTNA presidency and continue to be with the leadership of our organization. As Immediate Past President of MTNA, I still am actively involved with this topic.”

Ken will guide us through exercises that will help us meet and exceed our members’ expectations. There will be break-out sessions for leaders of small, medium and large chapters to meet together and discuss strategies to address your particular concerns.

You’ll also receive valuable information from WSMTA Committee Chairs that you can share with your chapter. Our District Vice Presidents will have brochures and details about exciting programs coming up this year somewhere near you! Carol Karlak, WSMTA’s newly-appointed Technical Liaison, will tell us ...

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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.

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- ❖ 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  
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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.**

**UPDATE: You may now submit  
articles embeded with hyperlinks.**

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## Membership

### Welcome New Members!

#### Bellingham

Mary Jackson

#### Clark County

Eben Fernando Heldreth

#### Eastside

Karen Yuen

#### Gig Harbor

Ruth Bechtel

#### Kitsap County

Dana Ashton

#### Lake Washington

Makiko Meyer

#### Moses Lake – Central Basin

Wilma Johnson

#### Olympia

Brianna Kramer  
Ann Panesko

#### Pullman

Jim Kelsey

#### Puyallup Valley

Melissa Niemi

#### Seattle

Carrie Kahler  
Nancy Lindskog

### ***Snohomish County***

Elen Aleksandrova

### ***South King County***

Merlyn Ahern

Melanie Barber

### ***Spokane***

Rebekah Brown

### ***Tacoma***

Juyeon Marquardt

### ***Tri-City***

Kathryn Costin

Michael LeFevre



## **Jump In Before It Gets Snatched!**

Hi, Fellow Washington Music Teacher! Greetings from the small town of Mukilteo, tucked literally under the Boeing wing in Everett on one side and spilling into Puget Sound trying to reach to Whidbey Island on the other. Why would YOU hear from me now, in September? Because I have the honor of serving you as WSMTA membership co-chair, along with our outstanding Executive Manager, Judith Price.

Do you know that we have 33 WSMTA chapters in our state and more than 1000 members? That makes us the second largest association in the country, outnumbered only by Texas! Our association is one of the most active, busiest and high achieving state affiliates, always well represented at the national leadership level. Let's keep it that way, or even better, let's grow even more! Because you know that if something does not grow or constantly searches for improvement, it loses its edge. You know that a chain is only as strong as its weakest link, and a team is as strong as it's every member.

Our WSMTA strength as a team begins with you and your chapter. That is why my first task for you is to elect a Membership Chair in EACH chapter in our state. The Membership Chair will have the most fun position of all. Don't you like to have friends over at your chapter meeting? Do you like to plan a party? Do you like to talk, show and tell about your chapter activities, slightly brag or passionately demonstrate your chapter awards, and give teaching or studio building advice? Then this position is for YOU!

If your chapter does not have a Membership Chair yet, please, jump in before it gets snatched! I can't wait to get to know you better and to start working with you on our plans. We will develop resources for our membership growth that marry the best of innovation with our deep roots, creative ideas with business needs, and of course, communication. We already have a lot to rely on in MTNA resources and powerful experience of leaders who came before us. Let's step forward and make it a fantastic year!

*Dr. Yelena Balabanova, NCTM*

*WSMTA Membership Chair,*

[yelenabalabanova@gmail.com](mailto:yelenabalabanova@gmail.com)

## **President's Corner**

*(Continued from Page 1)*

... be working together to provide you with tools to increase and retain membership; encourage participation in chapter and state events; and embrace the changing environment of today's student and studio needs. The Directory on Page 2 of the Clarion and the Contacts page on the WSMTA website lists all the committee chairs and chapter presidents. These volunteers are amazing, appreciated and vital to the tasks and goals that WSMTA is undertaking.

We got off to a great start for our 2<sup>nd</sup> century during the WSMTA Conference in Bremerton. Conference Chair Jani Peterson and her team: Dianne Johnston, Judy Price and Mary Kaye Owen; the Kitsap County Chapter members; and many additional volunteers demonstrated the energy and orchestration ability that resulted in education, camaraderie and enthusiasm. (We even had spouses of members get into the action!) I hope to continue this trend for many years. I'm already looking forward to a spirited, energizing conference in Walla Walla next year. Laura Curtis, 2016 Conference Chair, has big plans! You will want not only to attend, but also contribute from your toolbox of knowledge, experience and energy... it's your involvement that will move us forward as a vital, dynamic association.

One of my goals as President is to enlarge your toolbox each month. I will offer a specific tool that may assist your students, enhance your teaching and provide motivation to be involved in our future.

September is the perfect time to add a new tool to your arsenal of creative teaching. Some of these ideas may already be part of your toolbox, and some of them may simply need a little dusting off.

So, to quote from the 1990's TV sitcom *Home Improvement*: "Does Everybody Know What Time It Is? It's TOOL TIME!" Here is your tool of the month:

**Tool:** MTNA Website – Member Resources – Teaching Tips

**Purpose:** Collect new ideas and suggestions for studio teaching.

<http://www.mtna.org/member-resources/teaching-tips/>

**Synopsis:** There are 13 different topics. Each one contains suggestions from MTNA members of how to creatively approach instruction of the given topic.

My final advice: Get a bigger toolbox because there's more to come from not only your WSMTA leadership, but from the membership at large. During the WSMTA Leadership Seminar in September, MTNA/OAC Competitions in November and my chapter visits, I plan to gather new ideas and "tools" from you, to enlarge and enhance my teacher, volunteer and leader toolbox. I look forward to communicating with you about your ideas and suggestions as we start Year 101!

*Janice Smith*

*WSMTA President*

## **Coming Events**

*(Continued from Page 1)*

### **Leadership Seminar**

... about recent improvements to our state website, designed to make all of our jobs faster and easier.

Anyone holding a local, district or state leadership position should have received an email with an invitation to REGISTER ONLINE for the weekend! Simply go to WSMTA's home page and click on Leadership Seminar.

You'll also need to make your own room reservations at the Hilton Garden Inn: 509-454-1111, or use the link to the hotel on the Leadership Seminar web page. Mention WSMTA to get our special room rate of \$119.00. (Note: Limited number of rooms: **reserve before September 4.**)



WSMTA helps to underwrite the cost of the Leadership Seminar by reimbursing \$67.16, which is one-half the rate of a double occupancy room at the hotel (at the WSMTA special rate), including taxes. If you are looking for a room-mate, please contact me for ideas.

Many chapters also provide some financial assistance for the president or another representative to attend the Leadership Seminar. Check with your local treasurer for details and/or encourage your local chapter to make this investment in the future.

**Place:** Hilton Garden Inn – Yakima, WA

**Date:** September 26 – 27, 2015

**Time:** Saturday noon to Sunday noon

*Krista Seely*  
WSMTA President-Elect  
206-335-3384  
[ks88keys@gmail.com](mailto:ks88keys@gmail.com)

## **WSMTA Outstanding Artist Competition**

**Friday- Saturday- Sunday  
November 13th-15th, 2015**

This year's competition will be held at The University of Puget Sound in Tacoma. Senior competitors, ages 15 - 18 and Junior competitors ages 11 - 14 will be competing for cash awards.

The competition was established in 2005 to provide an additional performance opportunity for talented pianists from our state. It runs concurrently with the MTNA Competition, but is not part of the MTNA Competition. The Outstanding Artist Competition may serve as a positive initial step for students wanting to compete in the MTNA Performance Competition in future years.

Registrations are due by Sept. 16, 2015, so students are in the midst of preparing for this event. The level and breadth of their performances are always wonderful to hear. Consider volunteering for this event so you can enjoy their music! Contact me at [jscffelts@comcast.net](mailto:jscffelts@comcast.net) if you would like to be included as a volunteer.

*Cherie Felts, OAC Chair*

## **2015 WSMTA/MTNA Performance Competitions November 13 - 15 University of Puget Sound Tacoma, Washington**

Our state level MTNA Performance Competitions will be held at the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, WA on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, November 13-15, 2015.

WSMTA members are needed as volunteers! We will need registrars, door monitors and timekeepers. If you can volunteer for a few hours, please contact Onnie Adams at [onniedadams496@gmail.com](mailto:onniedadams496@gmail.com) or 509-943-1758. (Thanks Onnie for coordinating all of our volunteers!)

**Entry guideline information and student entry registration is available online only.** Go to the MTNA website: <http://www.mtna.org/programs/competitions>.

WSMTA charges a teacher entry fee of \$50 for the first entrant, plus \$25 for each additional entrant to help defray the considerable expenses incurred by WSMTA during sponsorship of this competition. (One entrant is one soloist, one chamber group or one piano duo.) Payment of this fee can be completed online at: <https://wsmta.org/mtna-performance-competition-teacher-fee/>

Questions on the registration process can be directed to WSMTA's MTNA Performance Competition Chair Karen Hollenback, NCTM at [karen.hollenback@gmail.com](mailto:karen.hollenback@gmail.com).

**Registration deadline is Noon PST September 16, 2015!** Don't wait until the last minute to register!!

Winners of our state level competition will compete at the **Northwest Division Competition scheduled for January 16-18, 2016 in Missoula, MT.**

**The National Finals are scheduled for April 2 - 6, 2016 in San Antonio, TX.**

*Karen Hollenback, NCTM  
WSMTA MTNA Performance  
Competition Chair*

## **New to the MTNA National Final Competitions**

- Young Artist Piano award is now a cash prize
- Third place has been reinstated with a cash prize of \$300
- Elementary Composition second prize has been raised to \$400

- Teacher Awards have been eliminated

2015-2016 MTNA membership dues must be paid prior to completing the application to avoid being assessed the nonmember fee.

The deadline for entries is Noon, PST, Wednesday, September 16, 2015.

*Linda Stump, NCTM  
Director of Competitions*

## **Seeking Proposals for the WSMTA 2016 Conference**

Do you have a topic that you are passionate and knowledgeable about? Now is the time to start thinking about being a presenter for the 2016 Conference! The "Presentation Proposal Form" will be available on the WSMTA Conference webpage and more information will be in the upcoming *Clarions*.

*Laura Curtis, 2016 Conference Chair*

## **BRAVO!**

*(Continued from Page 1)*

## **Musicianship Examinations High Honors**

*(Continued from Page 1)*

### **Lewis County**

*Victoria Patterson:* Pacey Atkinson (2); Pavie Atkinson (2)

*Sue Joachim:* Ethan Meyers (2); Brayden Burke (4)

*Linda Fast:* Soren Dalan (3); Ethan Grimes (3); Maddie Corwin (4); Ben Corwin (4)

*Karen Monroe:* KD Obtinario (1); Lewis Allen (1); Bella Miramontes (2); Geni Miramontes (2); Monroe Dalrymple (2); Amaya Bravo (3); Cindy Garibay (3); Sophie Dalrymple (3)

*Karen Brown:* Emma Weerasinghe (2)

*Judy Meyers:* Marshall Murden (4)

*Sephanie Cowin:* Austin Blankenshipo (2); Teyah Graves (3)

*Selah Newkirk:* Tyler Mason (4); Paige Mason (2); Ezra Birchard (1)

### **Sunn Valley**

#### **Teacher: Students (Levels)**

*Marilyn Linde:* Simon Johnston (1); Claire Sheehan (1); Alex Hawley (1); Ben Anderson (2); Ethan Weaver (2); Sophie Bos (3); Jared Sheehan (4); Kendra Gardiner (4); Aline Anderson (4); Fox Rodriguez (4)

### **Snohomish**

#### **Teacher: Students (Levels)**

*Kairlyn Benito:* Annmarie Thomson (3)

*Jane Campbell:* Austin Campbell (3)

*Tien-Yin Chen:* Frederick Huyan (7); Katie Shen (4); Angie Lu (2); Elaine Chou (3)

*Rachel Dickenson:* Samuel Roehl (1)

*Natsuko Goldman:* Danielle Aldrich (5); Rishitha Ravi (4)

*Sarah Hall:* Sonja Engen (1)

*Arlene Hicks:* Vianne Buinguyen (3)

*Monica Kessler:* Iain Cunningham (1)

*Rachel Preston:* Makaelyn Canell (1)

*Andrea Roorda:* Katie French (7); Hollie French (7); Jonah Teschlog (4); Ethan Smith (4); Gabriella Nusalim (3); Joshua Ramos (5)

*Yelena Tselnik:* Neil Pape (1); Raveen Sivakumar (1); Divya Sivakumar (2); Disha Cataman-chi (2)

## Seattle

### **Teacher: Students (Levels)**

*Linda Chu:* Jeffrey Cai (1)

*Jeff Pettijohn:* Jaden Helman (1); Helen Koenig (8)

*Anne Reese:* William Morgan (1); Skye Stumberger (1); Talia Folch (2); Andre Sezgin (2)

*Thom Stuart:* Aasha Steele (1); Noelle Marin-eau (2); Keigan Ouellette (2); Cyrus Steele (2); Emily Stuart (3); Dean Watson (3); Rajat Sengupta

*Rachel Lafond:* Sofie Drton (1)

*Rosemarie Tamburri:* Kate Campbell (2); Addy Dunbar (3); Kailen Goldman (3); Rohan Kumar (3); Adia Tseng (3); Gabby Campbell (4); Graham Peck (4); Doran Goldman (4); Quin Bender-Kokx

*Evelyn Hartwell:* Meghan Doyle (2); Kimberly Ransier (2); Henry Barnes (4); Noelle Dubendorf (4)

*Heather White:* Ernesto Ramos (2); Sullivan Steele (3); Brian Phuong (8)

*Rachel Matthews:* Rafe Fox (2); Akira Nair (7)

*Sonia Vargas:* Rajat Sengupta (3)

*Susan Freeman:* Rowan Faulkner (4); Elisa Simon (4)

*Karen McCullough:* Sydney Bredenberg (4); Ailsa Hendry (8)

## Olympia

### **Teacher: Students (Levels)**

*Mary Jane Clarke:* Jasmine Zhang (2)

*Sharon Crain:* Zoey Rendon (2); Sophia Carney (2)

*Carol Crawford:* Angela Gibbs (1); Andy Phan (8); Charis Brown (2); Shamane Alexandria (8)

*Sue Dick:* Elora Neer (3); Liam Greenlee (2); Anna Yancey (1)

*Maureen Johnson:* Kyle Fitch (4); Bethany Gizinski (3); Emma Jeppersen (1); Anna McClatchey (3); KayLi Watness (4)

*Pat Kilmer:* Hugh Randall (2); Lauren Forster (4); Sam Philippsen (3)

*Lynn Lewis:* Daniel Bohlig (1); Elizabeth Bohlig (5)

*Gordon Miller:* Veronica Moldevanu (2); Brit-tany Bertelin (3)

*Mariann Ryan:* Caitlyn Sheldon (3)

## Grays Harbor

### **Teacher: Students (Levels)**

*Nikkol Daniels:* Mallory Schneider (3)

*Merry Jo Zimmer:* Will Boling (3); Emily Tagueant (3); Sam Dorsch (1)

*Erica Hollen:* Micah Hollen (9); Tyler Mar-chese (6); Isiah Johnson (3); Mercy Johnson (4); Alyssa Caskey (1)

## Education

### CERTIFICATION CORNER

Welcome back from your summer adventures! I am excited to be the new WSMTA Certification Chair. Thank you, Karen Hollenback, for your encouragement and leadership in guiding myself and other teachers through the national certification process. I look forward to getting to know teachers from across the state and cheering on those working on or considering MTNA certification!

As I write this article here in Spokane there is blue sky, a warm breeze, and the laughter of children across the street running through the sprinklers. By the time you read this bright colors will cover trees, the crisp fall air will return to Washington (and probably the rain), and our students will fill our studios every day. We have the unique privilege as music teachers to connect with students one-on-one and inspire a love for the timeless language of music. We equip our students not only to play pieces but to communicate through artistic musicianship!

At the opening session of our WSMTA Conference in Bremerton, we recognized 9 newly certified teachers this past year! Washington is currently ranked 12th in the nation for number of certified teachers. The process of MTNA certification results in a consistent quality of music education and equips teachers to master their profession and inspire. If you have been considering certification, please contact me with any questions and check out [www.mtnacertification.org](http://www.mtnacertification.org) to get started!

I am excited to congratulate **Janice Smith, NCTM** (Spokane), who has completed certification in piano! For those of you who may also be considering certification, there are 5 certification grants of \$100 each available to help with the certification application cost. Send in your paperwork to MTNA with your application

fee, then contact me and I will get the grant process started for you!

Rose Freeman, NCTM  
WSMTA Certification Chair  
425-248-9288  
[pianoteacherose@gmail.com](mailto:pianoteacherose@gmail.com)

## Young Composers Project

The WSMTA Young Composers Project offers an educational opportunity for students in Washington State to receive evaluations of their original compositions. Each entrant receives written comments from a qualified adjudicator. YCP also sponsors an annual Winners Recital at the state conference featuring a performer from each grade or entry level.

YCP is open to students from kindergarten through college, including students of teachers who are not members of WSM-TA. For non-member teachers, there is an additional fee. Please see the 2016 Young Composers Project Rules and Guidelines for additional information.

Each composition entered in the Young Composers Project requires an Entry Form. This form is available online along with the 2016 YCP Rules and Guidelines at <https://wsmta.org> > programs for students > competitions > young-composers-project

Check the website during the fall for information about an online payment option for WSMTA members.

Teachers must mail their students' entries. All the entries from one teacher must be sent together in one mailer, post-marked on or before **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2016.**

Please note the fees have changed for 2016, ranging from \$25 - \$40. (The cost is very similar to Adjudications.) Also new for 2016: students may enter as many compositions as they wish as long as they are accompanied by the appropriate entry fees for their level. However, only **ONE** composition may be submitted for competition. As YCP is primarily an educational opportunity, this change allows serious students to enter multiple compositions for evaluation and feedback. Students who enter more than one composition should differentiate between the **ONE** composition entered for competition and the other compositions by writing "COMMENTS ONLY" on the manuscripts that are for evaluation only.

New composition curriculums are becoming more widely available. *Creative Composition Toolbox* by Wynn-Anne Rossi is suitable for younger students. Wendy Steven's website "ComposeCreate.com" is another resource.

Plan ahead if your students are participating in this program just as you would prepare your students for Adjudications. Students' compositions are evaluated on musical form, accuracy, and completeness of the score in addition to the creative elements. It may take many drafts before the student's final copy is free of errors and ready to submit for evaluation.

If the score is handwritten, be sure your student uses a straightedge for all stems, bar lines, etc. Make sure to align notes in more than one clef.

Allow time for a thorough review of the score before the mailing deadline. This is important for manuscripts produced with notation software as well as for those that are hand-written. Be sure that the student takes responsibility for all the changes and corrections to the score (with the exception of primary level students who may dictate their piece with the teacher acting as scribe.)

Questions? See the Rules and Guidelines linked above or contact me.

*Carol Karlak, WSM TA YCP Chair,  
c.karlak@comcast.net*

## Program Reports



### MTNA Foundation News

The MTNA Foundation Fund supports teachers and students all over the country. Thanks to the generosity of WSM TA members, Washington has been able to fund two MTNA Foundation Fellows in recent years. This year's nominees are Dianne Johnston, WSCTM and Margaret Pressley.

Please support the MTNA Foundation Fund and our 2016 nominees by making a contribution in their names.

It's a worthy cause!

*Robin Chadwick, NCTM  
MTNA Foundation Chair for WSM TA*

## Enrichment

### ☀ ETHICS CORNER ☀

#### The E's of Enjoyable Events

The school year with all its exciting events is suddenly upon us... recitals, masterclasses, competitions, festivals, adjudications, auditions, and more. Just hearing those words evokes various emotions in each of us. For some, it's actually exhilarating! For others, a sense of extreme exhaustion hits as they ponder the endless hours it takes to pull off these enervating exercises. Either way, the year is going to be what we make it. Here are three E's to help make this year's events the best they can be!

1) Exemplify good work ethic. When our turn comes to organize an event, judge a competition, welcome people at the door, print programs, or whatever... let's hold ourselves to the same standard (and higher) that we expect of others. Be well-prepared well in advance, strive for excellence, gratefully accept ideas and constructive criticism, stay positive, be a team-player, etc. Exemplify volunteer excellence.

2) Encourage other volunteers. Whether it's the person in charge or the low man on the totem pole, their emolument is anything but enormous. (Actually, they make more money finding dropped change at the Everett Mall.) THEY ARE VOLUNTEERS. That means they're taking time out of their busy schedules to work for you and me—for free. Remember that these earthbound souls are not error-free. They're human and make mistakes like the rest of us. Give 'em some space. We're better off keeping our eye out for the good we see—and highlighting it. Our students should regularly hear us expressing our gratitude and respect for the excellent teamwork in our chapters and state organization. We'll know we're doing this well when we hear them echoing our sentiments. Also remember to empower your fellow-volunteers with encouraging words as you "esteem others more highly than yourself." *Our success truly lies in making others successful.* Not an easy task, but an essential one that seems to be approaching extinction at times. ;)

3) Enthusiastically participate. From recitals to competitions, let your students

see you capitalizing on these annual events. Know the details and communicate them clearly to your studio. Pay fees on time so the collections chairperson in your chapter doesn't have to do the dirty work of nagging you for \$. (Me, too. Guilty as charged.) Arrive early. Be eager to help. Celebrate the exceptional teachers around you. Respect the opinions of judges and adjudicators. Submit your opinions graciously. Remember that our students are watching and emulating us. Enthusiasm is extremely contagious.

In summary, let's embrace our responsibility as teachers to educate, encourage and expect this type of positive and even-tempered behavior not only from students and parents, but even more so from ourselves and fellow teachers. As we all endeavor to fulfill "The E's of Enjoyable Events," this year's events will be the enjoyably exhilarating experiences they were meant to be!

*Chris Rogers, Ethics Chair*

### 🎵 NEW MUSIC 🎵

As we start our fall teaching schedules, we are searching for materials for our students in the areas of method books, repertoire, sight reading, and theory. The method books include theory books for each level, but what do we use for theory after the students graduate from their method book series or if we need to supplement? Or perhaps as a teacher you prefer a separate theory book, unrelated to a method series?

There are some wonderful materials available! For more information and sample pages visit the websites for the publishers.

Mona Rejino. **Essential Elements Piano Theory.** Books 1-5 take the student from beginning reading to analysis, improvisation, transposition, lead lines, and chord progressions. Each book explores ear training, mastery in rhythm, symbols, reading and analysis. There is a section on "Theory Mastery" which includes a review test and ear training in every book too. Hal Leonard.

Keith Snell and Martha Ashleigh: **Fundamentals of Music Theory.** Preparatory level through Level 10. This series provides clear explana-



tions, written exercises, sight reading, ear training, drills, and review work. Successive books provide a solid review before introducing new material. The page layout is very clear and not cluttered. A Teacher's Answer book is available for all levels. Kjos Music.

Glory St. Germain: **Ultimate Music Theory**. Beginning rudiments through advanced rudiments with Answer books for each level. These books prepare students for the Royal Conservatory of Music theory testing program. Pages in the upper levels are quite filled with material. Gloryland publishing. [UltimateMusicTheory.com](http://UltimateMusicTheory.com).

Karen Harrington. **Piano Teacher's Resource Kit**. This book includes reproducible worksheets, games, puzzles, and more for group classes, as well as supplementary materials for individual students. It is written in 5 levels from early elementary to early advanced. In addition to the theory materials, there are practice charts, skill charts, assignment sheets and other studio tools. An answer key is included. Hal Leonard.

Paul Schmeling. **Berklee Music Theory**. Books 1 and 2 are developed from the theory program at Berklee College of Music. Triads, seventh chords, inversions, voice leading for jazz, blues and popular styles, and lead sheets are included with an answer key. These books would be for a high school student really interested in jazz. Hal Leonard.

Bruce Benward/Barbara Garvey Jackson/Bruce R. Jackson. **Practical Beginning Theory, 8th Edition**. This is a Fundamentals Worktext for advanced high school students, preparing to be college music majors or minors, or for college review. The ear training exercises are found on accompanying CDs and additional exercises are found on the website for the text. Available from Amazon for about \$125.00 new or \$55.00 used.

Phyllis Pieffer, NCTM  
New Music Review Chair

## IMTF Corner

Being a great sight reader helps you learn new music more quickly and accurately. If we can teach our students to be independent learners through knowing how to sight read they will be able to continue to learn and play music throughout their lives.

I've compiled this list of problems that trip us up while we sight read. Please feel free to share this list with your students.

### **Common Sight Reading Traps** **Speed:**

- **Starting out without first thinking of the tempo.** (Say to yourself: "I'm in 4/4 and this is the speed of the quarter note.) Think of the speed and rhythm of the first measure before beginning.
- **Playing too fast.** (Look at the blackest notes 1<sup>st</sup> to determine speed.)
- **Slowing down** when it gets hard. (Keep tapping!)
- **Changing the tempo** when a common rhythm pattern changes
  - ( sixteenth notes for two measures then triplets.)
- **Forgetting the underlying beat.** Is the quarter note the beat? (4/4) Are you playing in 8ths? (8/8)

### **Key signatures:**

- Those tricky **key signatures** with more than 4 sharps or flats
- Forgetting **accidentals** later in the measure
- **Odd note** accidentals (F flat, E sharp, G double sharp)
- Forgetting the **key signature in ornaments** (The trill is still in the key)

### **Rhythm:**

- Shortchanging or skipping **rests** (think shh)
- Mixing up the **dotted quarter and eighth** (2 beats)
  - with the **dotted eighth and sixteenth**
- Sloppy rhythm (Think of **rhythm words** such as huckleberry for four 16th notes and gooseberry for an 8<sup>th</sup> and two 16<sup>th</sup> notes.) Also **tap the beat and the "and" of the beat** so the inner beat is precise.

### **Thinking:**

Don't guess! You can do it!!

Bonnie Blanchard, NCTM  
IMTF Chair

## HISTORIAN

### **A Look Back at Music in Society in 1915**

The organization of Washington State Music Teachers Association began June 19, 1915 following adjournment of the Northwest Music Teachers Association conference in Tacoma. It was found that the Northwest Music Association embraced a geographic region too large to be effective in those days. The first project of the State Association was to certify music teachers. Society and music have changed while contributing to the heritage we now enjoy. What was society like in 1915?

Although electricity was available to about 20% of homes in American cities, the electrical supply was still unreliable and expensive. Farmers and rural residents lived without electricity until the 1930's. Telephone and radio were in the process of being developed, but minimally available for common use. 1915 was the year of the first transcontinental telephone call. While some afforded them, gramophones (record players) were expensive. To listen to music the public had to attend or participate in live programs such as concerts and ceremonies or make music themselves at home.

The available popular entertainment in theaters included vaudeville acts consisting of 7-10 variety acts, appropriate for everyone. Minstrel shows were amateur variety productions that used songs, dances and skits to satirize contemporary society. The chautauqua was a camp meeting for adults that consisted of preaching, educational speakers, inspiration and music held for several days at a time. Bands, community and professional, performed music for special celebrations often outdoors in the local park. Company bands were formed to keep the workers out of politics and to play for special events. "These thousands of bands provided music for parades, civic ceremonials, concerts and dances." Upper classes could go to dinners and dances, where the dance of choice was the waltz. Informal dances for middle classes would feature the tango, cakewalks, one-step, turkey trot, bunny hug, camel walk, and Fox trot to name a few. In rural, farming areas, there was also appreciation for

music. Dance bands were formed and played for dances.

Ragtime music was at the height of development. Jazz continued to develop, becoming more widely popular when bands moved from New Orleans to northern cities. The phonograph popularized opera, allowing those who had never set foot in an opera house to become acquainted with opera works and opera performers such as Enrico Caruso.

In popular music, Scott Joplin would live for two more years. 1915 was the only year that his opera, *Treemonisha*, was performed while he was alive. Irving Berlin was prolific, writing, *I Love a Piano*, among others. *Fascination* was written by Harold Atteridge and Sigmund Romberg. Victor Herbert's name was found on many popular songs of 1915. George M. Cohan was well established as "the man who owned Broadway," with *I'm a Yankee Doodle Dandy* and *You're a Grand Old Flag*, already popular standards.

March King, John Philip Sousa, debuted *The Pathfinder of Panama*, perhaps commemorating the dedication of the canal the previous summer. The Hawaiian Pavillion in the 1915 Panama-Pacific International Exposition in San Francisco provided a venue for the popularization of the Ukulele and Hawaiian music.

Meanwhile, War lurked in the background. World War I broke out in Europe in June 1914. The United States managed to stay out of the War until 1917, despite the sinking May 7, 1915 of the British Liner *Lusitania* by a German U-Boat.

Songs associated with war found their way across the ocean into the collection of 1915 songs. *Pack up Your Troubles in Your Old Kit-Bag* (words George Asaf [Powell]; music Felix Powell) was popular in Britain as well as the United States. *I Didn't Raise My Boy to Be a Soldier* was somewhat of a war protest song. Some war associated songs became hit recordings: *It's a Long Way to Tipperary*, John McCormack. *Keep the Home Fires Burning*, James F. Harrison.

Classical musicians Claude Debussy and Maurice Ravel were actively composing. Debussy wrote *En blanc et noir* for two pianos and *Etudes* for solo piano (two books of 6). Brazilian composer Heitor Villa-Lobos' new works were first performed in special concert. Alban Berg composed *Drei Orchesterstücke* and entered the Austro-Hungarian Army. The *Musical Quarterly* was founded for musicologists by Oscar Sonneck.

In the years leading to 1915 the population increased in number and in prosperity. Pianos were more accessible to the average citizen. As the piano became a major source of music in the home an "industry" arose supporting the needs of pianists in the home. (*To be continued.*)

Marilyn Droz, WSM TA Historian

You may view references at

<http://tinyurl.com/lyzlwju>

## Reviews

### "CENTENNIAL SOUNDS" THE FIRST 100 YEARS OF WSMTA



WOW!! What a 100th Birthday Celebration! What's the saying?

**"Build it and they will come".**

#### **Build it:**

- \* The stage was set with a location by the water and amazing weather!
- \* The festive atmosphere with balloons, ribbons and flowers.
- \* A schedule full of educational topics and music.

#### **They will come!**

You, the WSM TA members, came with enthusiasm and in great numbers. There were 186 full time registrations which included 15 first timers, 13 students and 2 non-members. Some of you could only come for one day but that total was 24



with 6 first timers. The *Non-Member Free Day* was a success with 14 dropping in on the festivities.

There are so many people to thank. Our two guest artists, *Alan Chow* and *Nelita True*: How wonderful it was to have them spend the week with us sharing their teaching ideas. A stunning recital was given by Alan, and I can still hear Nelita saying "*and going to there*"! Members of the Kitsap Chapter were marvelous hosts: Decorations (*Patti Ray & Rachel Steinlicht*); Fun bags with all the wonderful FREE goodies (*Georgene Corey & Mary Grant*); Hospitality and all the yummy cookies! (*Leslie Devine*); Photo Booth – what a hoot!! (*Anita Rose*); Singing and dancing – what a great way to start each day! (*Melanie Harris & Debra Florian*); and all the volunteers and door monitors (*Joann Richardson*).



*Thank you* to all who presented! What remarkable colleagues that gave of their time and expertise on such a wide variety of topics. *Thank you* to all the recital chairs (*Janice Smith, Carol Karlak, & Krista Seely*). There were over 80 students and their families that traveled from all across the state to share their music.

More *Thank You's* go to *Cheri Felts* for all the beautiful flowers; *Debbie Peterson & husband Dan* for such a cheerful and most helpful registration desk!; *Elaine Fox* for handling all the pre-registration; *Rose Freeman* for the many hours of formatting our fabulous and easy to read conference booklet; *Cinda Redman* for her usual flair and excitement in raising money for the Scholarship Fund; and *Ryan Sowers* for keeping the two pianos in good shape all week.

Our usual banquet turned dinner cruise was a very special evening. Again, great participation with over 125 attending. *Thank you* to *Allan Park* for coordinating the students who wowed us with their extraordinary talent. It was a perfect evening to be on the water and cele-



brate with each other. One member made a comment that it is not often a group of music teachers can just hang out together for a 3 hour block of time without someone having to run to rehearsals or lessons! The committee, along with many of you, were very disappointed in the lack of provisions provided on the boat. This truly was not our expectation or desire and the Conference Center was very apologetic. In spite of that, there was still singing on the lower deck, laughter at the photo booth, beautiful scenery and a time of relaxing with good friends. It truly was a magical night.



A few new things were tried this year. One being the addition of "Chapter History Boards". What a huge success!! Many chapters filled the rotunda area with a glimpse into their own past and the things that make their chapter unique. Our hope is that this will be a start or an addition to your own historical archives. Not new but re-titled was the "Awards Ceremony". Instead of this occurring during the banquet it was a separate hour of celebration. It still was a time to honor our Hall of Fame (*Paul Tweedt & Annabelle Wall*), Honorary Life Member (*Margee Webster*) and Chapter of the Year (*Edmonds Chapter*). Additionally, a special recognition was given to past WSMTA presidents to say "Thank You" for all their years of service and leadership. It truly was an honor and touching moment to the 12 past presidents attending which spanned back to 1973.

Additionally, Rebecca Grooms Johnson, MTNA President, presented WSMTA with a *Recognition Award* for its 100 years! (On a side note, MTNA also recognized WSMTA in the Aug/Sept. AMT on page 36!).



Last but certainly not least is a "THANK YOU" to you the individual members and chapters that became "Friends of WSMTA". Your donations were not only instrumental in helping with the finances of the conference but also showed solidarity to support our state. With the donations and all those that volunteered from around the state, the conference truly was a joint project.

The comments left on the evaluation sheets are very helpful. New things were implemented and perhaps not everything worked but you don't know until you try! Change is good though and your future conference chairs and leaders will continue to find new ways to keep the conferences up to date and engaging.

I hope after reading all the historical articles in the *CLARION* this past year, you have gained some insight into what an amazing professional organization you belong to. WSMTA has been a leader on so many fronts, and with the forward thinking of its members, WSMTA will continue to lead into the future.

To relive the memories or to see what you missed, click the photo link on WSMTA's homepage. On behalf of the Conference Committee, it was a joy and pleasure to have had the opportunity to be a part of such an important event in WSMTA's history.

**CONGRATULATIONS to all for a VERY successful conference!!**

Conference Committee:

*Jani Peterson, NCTM*

*Dianne Johnston, WSCTM*

*Mary Kaye Owen, NCTM*

*Judith Price, NCTM*

## Edmonds Receives Chapter of the Year Award at Centennial Conference



During WSMTA's Centennial Celebration, Edmonds Chapter became the 8<sup>th</sup> chapter to win the Chapter of the Year Award! On behalf of the Chapter, President Tim Saye accepted the plaque and a \$300 check from WSMTA. The Chapter was organized in 1989 and founding member, Carolyn Malnes, was unable to accompany Tim. The audience sang "Congratulations to You" to the tune of "Happy Birthday!" Marilyn Linde, was also recognized and thanked for her efforts in initiating the award and serving as its first chair.

There are 25 chapters remaining to have their name engraved on the COY plaque - your Chapter is encouraged to apply. We want to hear your story about teaching and sharing music! Application information and guidelines can be found at the WSMTA website. We look forward to honoring YOU during WSMTA's 101<sup>st</sup> Birthday Celebration in Walla Walla next year!

*Harriet West, COY Chair*

## District News

### District V Conference with Peter Mack

District V is holding their conference on Saturday September 19, 2015. Anyone who would like to join us would be more than welcome. We are excited to have Peter Mack as our presenter for that day. He will be presenting his teaching metaphors. He will also do a masterclass with students.

9:30-4:30 is the time. Immanuel Lutheran Church at 1020 So. A street is the place. \$40 is the cost. \$7 is the cost for lunch. Doreen Slauch is the person to contact. 1048 Oregon St. Moses Lake WA 98837 is the address. 509-765-9596 is the phone number. Sept 10 is the dead-



line if you want lunch. Anyone can show up and register that day without lunch.

### District VII Conference

**The Conference--with Dr. Kay Zavislak--held on October 3rd at Steinway Piano Gallery, 13418 E. Nora in Spokane, will begin at 10:00 a.m., with the first presentation, "Finding Clues from Bach's Own Works to Interpret His Keyboard Music". There will be a break for lunch from 11:45 to 1:00, allowing time to go to a nearby restaurant. An optional light lunch will also be available at the gallery. At 1:00 p.m. Dr. Zavislak will present "Interpreting Keyboard Music from the Classical Period". The District VII master class will begin at 2:30 and conclude at 3:45.**

**COST: \$25.00 for District VII Members/\$30.00 for Non-Members/\$15.00 for Students w/ID/ \$ 5.00 optional lunch (sub sandwiches, fruit, chips and beverage)**

You may access the Ticket Order form by going to **[www.spokanemusicteachers.org](http://www.spokanemusicteachers.org)** under forms. Tickets may also be purchased at the door. Tickets ordered by mail will be held in will-call at the registration desk.

### District I & II Conference

#### "How I Teach" and "What I Teach"

**with Dr. Yelena Balabanova, Dr. Natalya Ageyeva, & Dr. Peter Mack**

The Conference will be held on Sat., Oct. 3 a 9 am, at the Marysville United Methodist Church, 5600 64th St. Check-in will be between 8:30 and 9 am. Early bird registration through Sept. 26 will guarantee lunch (additional fees may apply).

**Three master teachers--one unforgettable day--one low price!** Registration fees include FREE gluten-free hot buffet lunch and a vegetarian alternative. For registration forms, contact Allan Park at [allanpark@me.co](mailto:allanpark@me.co).

Fees: WSM TA member \$40/Non-member \$45/Student \$20/After Sept. 27 or day of event \$50.

## More Centennial Conference Photos



WSMTA Past Presidents, L-R: Dianne Johnston, WSCTM; Jani Peterson, NCTM; Mary Kaye Owen, NCTM; Margee Websster, NCTM; Debra Florian, NCTM; Marilyn Linde, WSCTM; Connie Hungate, WSCTM; Mary Jane Clarke, NCTM; Marilyn Brossard, NCTM; Judith Price, NCTM; David Rostkoski; Laurie Eash, NCTM.



WSMTA Education Board & Board of Directors Dinner, L-R, FRONT ROW: Mary Grant, NCTM; Dianne Johnston, WSCTM; Carolyn Stuart, NCTM; Gary Ingle; Lena Wheaton; Cinda Redman, NCTM; Patti Robertson, NCTM; Onetta Adams; Mary Kaye Owen, NCTM. BACK ROW: Jani Peterson, NCTM; Dorie Guidon, NCTM; Rebecca Johnson, NCTM; Laurie Eash, NCTM; Nelita True; Janice Smith, NCTM; Peter Mack, NCTM; Robin Chadwick, NCTM; Karen Holenback, NCTM.

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*Chopin: Piano Concerto #1 in E minor*  
*Tchaikovsky: Piano Concerto in B flat minor*



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Amy Bowen Photography

**Sunday, September 20, 2015 at 5:00 p.m.**

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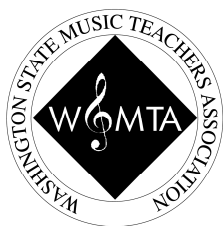
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## ***DATES 'N DEADLINES***

**Sept. 4:** Deadline for reserving discounted Yakima Hilton room rates for the Leadership Seminar

**Sept. 7:** Registration deadline for the Leadership Seminar

**Sept. 16:** Deadline for MTNA Performance Competition online applications

**Sept. 16:** Postmark deadline for MTNA Composition Competition applications

**Sept. 16:** Postmark deadline for WSMTA Outstanding Artist Competition applications

**Sept. 18-19:** District V Conference in Moses Lake

**Sept. 23:** Postmark deadline for teacher entry fee for MTNA Competitions

**Sept. 26-27:** Leadership Seminar in Yakima.

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