

President's Corner



Time. We tell time, mark time, kill time, lose time, waste time, face time, serve time... along with many more idioms than can be listed here. As music teachers we all understand

the importance of time not only for our personal and professional lives, but that which is inherent in musical compositions. The reality of time, though, seems to be capricious depending on the circumstance in which we are marking the time. When a well-prepared student comes to a lesson the time passes quickly and 60 minutes is gone before we know it. But when the opposite happens and a student forgets some of the music and did not prepare I find myself looking at the clock every 10 minutes. The same can be said of a brilliant performance, a superior master class or presentation by a dull, monotonous speaker. As a child I recall the very slow passage of time during the 30-minute newscast my parents watched each evening, yet the weekly Star Trek episode passed much too quickly.

One of the life-skills we are required to master from a young age is time management. Calculating daily tasks, prioritizing time for exercise, managing family activities or squeezing in a few moments to cruise the Internet. I know that many of you prioritize time for musical practice and professional activities. But there are times when we leave such narrow margins that we become vulnerable to burnout and anxiety. In September I attended the MTNA Leadership Summit where MTNA President Dr. Rebecca Grooms Johnson, NCTM, presented a session on burnout. You can access her presentation handout here: <http://www.mtna.org/media/99342/BeatingBurnoutinLeadershipHandout.pdf> (Continued on Page 3)

BRAVO!

CHEERS & APPLAUSE!

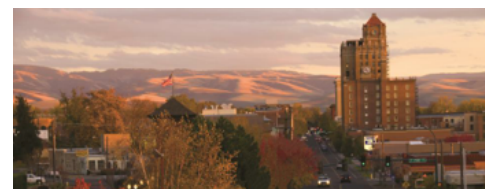
WSMTA has a very large list of volunteers and supporters, and I would like to acknowledge 3 of these fabulous members this month. These 3 members serve in multiple capacities in our state, and deserve recognition and acclaim.

Patti Robertson, NCTM - WSMTA Treasurer. As most of you know, Patti has been our treasurer for many years, and I want to give her special appreciation as we enter the busy competition and adjudication seasons. As president I work with her closely and know that her work and dedication to running and managing our financial transactions and records makes a BIG difference not only to our state leadership, but also to every chapter and member. She also serves on the Finance Committee, the Development Committee and Investments Committee. During our recent conversion to online entry forms, her job as treasurer altered and increased as credit/debit cards are now accepted. I can say she has become my friend and have learned that she enjoys travel with her husband, is quite the wine connoisseur, is a fellow tech-geek, and best of all - she loves cats as much as I do! We have exchanged a number of humorous cat stories, cat photos and cat jokes over the years.

Laura Curtis - 2016 WSMTA Conference Chair. I first got to know Laura when I served as MTNA Performance Competition Chair and Laura was Young Artist Performance Competition Coordinator - and Laura is still our YA Coordinator! Laura is a member of the Walla Walla chapter, and is also faculty at Whitman College where we will be holding the 2016 WSMTA Conference. ... (Continued on Page 3)

Coming Events

WSMTA State Conference June 21 - 24, 2016 Walla Walla, Washington



Walla Walla is beautiful in the fall. The fall colors explode in the valley and the rolling hills of the Palouse look like brown velvet. June has a different kind of beauty. Walla Walla is known for its bounty of old growth trees, 44 of which are the largest of their species in Washington State. Our founders thought of the future when they began their extensive tree planting campaign and used many non-native species. In the middle of Eastern Washington's desert, these trees provide green lushness during the warmth of summer.

The wine industry has changed the face of Walla Walla over the last ten years or so. We have become a destination with many fine restaurants, art galleries, boutiques, music events and festivals, and superb guesthouses - and of course the wineries themselves. I plan to include a "wine and food walk" to some of the downtown tasting rooms as a prelude to the banquet; an hors d'oeuvre of sorts.



Downtown, Main Street

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

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

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Email Exec. Mgr. at
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the WSMATA Executive Office
if your address changes.**

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CLARION Contributors:

- 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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Ed. Board Members, Ex-Officio
Janice Smith, NCTM (see President)
Dorie Guidon (see Adjudications Chair)
Judith Price, NCTM (see Exec. Mgr.)

Membership

Welcome New Members!

Collegiate

Bradley Clark
Margaret Eddy
Christina Locatelli
Hannah Stuart

Bellingham

Lisa Nakahara

Edmonds

Janice Park

Eastside

Jonathan Boysen
Amanda Harris
Robert Wilson

Grays Harbor

Joy Dorsch

Lake Washington

Karen Blyton

Lynden

Sheila Veldman

Olympic Peninsula

Ken Young

Seattle

Sinae Cheh
Katherine Emeneth

Snohomish County

Loria Preston

South King County

Maria Maltseva

Spokane

Jillian McCord

James McCord

Corrections to the Annual List of Officers, Board Members, Committee Chairs & Chapter Presidents

ATTENTION: WSMTA members who receive their list by MAIL ONLY via the October CLARION

A number of corrections were made AFTER the October CLARION was mailed. These changes were made to the WSMTA website version and other PDF email copies, but need to be corrected in your hard copy list. SEE PAGE 4.

ATTENTION ALL WSMTA MEMBERS

More recent corrections made AFTER October 1 are also listed on Page 4.

President's Corner

(Continued from Page 1)

I found three of her solutions to dealing with burnout to be most helpful:

- 1. Build Social Support;**
- 2. Build Skills; and**
- 3. Tailor the Job**

Over the years, I have held many different positions with WSMTA, both at the chapter and the state level. My very first job was hospitality chair in the Spokane chapter. I was quite young and new to the organization and extremely flattered that these teachers, whom I found to be very professional ...and intimidating... would even consider asking me to do a job. They instructed and helped me understand the requirements. They showed me where to find the equipment, how to send around the sign-up list for cookies and provided the support I needed to overcome my nervousness. Needless to say, I must have done OK because I was asked to do more complex tasks as time went by. Each position has helped me to build skills and I learned to tailor each one so as to meet the requirements of the position without causing undue stress or anxiety.

Most members of WSMTA either have been or will be asked to give time to the organization and most members of WSMTA will be concerned about the time requirements involved to accomplish the job for which they are being considered. It is the hope of leadership that members donate time to a position for which they are well qualified, where time passes quickly and your skills are well suited. But sometimes we need members to give time for simple tasks that may not challenge, yet are vitally important. In November WSMTA will be holding the MTNA Performance Competitions and the Outstanding Artist Competition. Large events like this require many hours of work, and very few times will they occur without a few missteps, oversights or errors. Without sufficient assistance these errors can increase and even more importantly the members who have given massive amounts of their time can experience anxiety, stress and burnout – even when trained, tailored and supported. WSMTA is a very supportive organization when it comes to providing emotional and professional assistance, but there are times when we simply need people to quietly and unconditionally give of their time.

So I am asking you to create or revive a tool from your personal and professional Toolbox:

The November Tool-of-the-Month: Personal Time Endowment.

Endowments may be financial, personal, or professional. Your current toolbox likely contains several types of Endowments in the form of gifts, scholarships or awards: needy student scholarships; awards for your children (cars, cell phones, cash); gifts of your time or items to neighbors and friends (pet care, lending an egg, helping the elderly neighbor). WSMTA at both the chapter and state level needs your Personal Time Endowment with assistance of many flavors and styles. You will be provided with support, gratitude, training and mentorship and encouraged to tailor the job to fit your schedule. If you have been asked for a Time Endowment, please say "Yes!" – particularly this coming month with the MTNA & OAC competitions. In 2016 each chapter will be holding WSMTA Adjudications and will also be asking for your gifts of time. For every Time Endowment received, burnout is lessened, opportunities for skill building increase and we tailor new and unique methods to accomplish

the work that keeps our organization viable and dynamic. The creativity of music teachers to efficiently manage time is unparalleled. I hope you will benefit from my Time Endowments as President of WSMTA, and I look forward to learning from yours!

*Janice Smith, NCTM
WSMTA President*

BRAVO!

(Continued from Page 1)

CHEERS & APPLAUSE!

(Continued from Page 1)

... As you all know, the Conference Chair position is full of ball juggling, people handling and financial massaging. Laura's experience as YA Coordinator uniquely qualifies her to be our next conference chair – the skill set is almost identical. But the best qualification Laura has is her sense of humor, calming demeanor and contagious laugh. If you've ever been around Laura for more than five minutes, you will know what I mean. ☺ We are fortunate to have her involvement, skill and personality in charge of these very important jobs.

Dorie Guidon – WSMTA Adjudications Chair. As a former adjudications chair, I can speak honestly about the level of commitment, energy and focus that Dorie applies to WSMTA Adjudications. Some of you may know that she not only manages the chapter event administration, but also is in charge of new adjudicator applications and processing. She works intensely with members, chapters, state leadership and adjudicators AND she serves on both the Board of Directors and the Education Board. One of the most difficult jobs of the state Adjudications chair is giving people bad news: the schedule is incorrect.... the money doesn't match.... the paperwork is incomplete... And she is required to work with many, many different personalities and skill-sets. I applaud her for her patience, persistence and technical skills. She, too, has become my friend and I am a better president, teacher and person by knowing her!

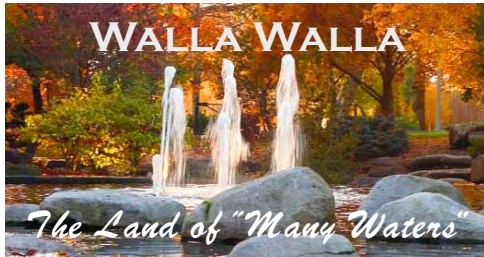
There are many, many others that deserve appreciation, and I hope to recognize many of them over the next two

years. If you feel someone is doing an outstanding job in a specific area, please let me know so I can thank him or her both personally and publicly!

Janice Smith, NCTM
WSMTA President
jsmithpiano@gmail.com
509-995-5676

Coming Events

(Continued from Page 1)



There are many options for housing during the Conference. **Prentiss Hall**, one of the historic dorms, has been re-modeled and is now the only air conditioned dorm on campus.



The dorms are right next to the Hall of Music and the old music conservatory, Hunter Hall, where most of the Conference events will be held. There are also several motels and guesthouses within walking distance of the campus.



View from
Prentiss Hall
dorm room



Hunter Conservatory

And another plus: Bon Appetite, the catering and food service folks at Whitman, make *great* food.

I look forward to welcoming you and sharing the beauty of Eastern Washington.

Laura Curtis, Conference Chair

Would you like to be a presenter?

The deadline has been extended to November 20th

A new Presentation Proposal Form is included on Page 10 of this issue.

2015 WSMTA Outstanding Artist Competition

November 13 -15, 2015
University of Puget Sound
Tacoma

In just a few short weeks, the Outstanding Artist Competition will begin! It has been exciting to see the repertoire choices students with their respective teachers have been studying and memorizing. The Junior Division will begin on Friday evening and continue all day on

Saturday with 28 students registered. Senior Division will commence Saturday evening, and continue on Sunday morning and end mid-afternoon with 17 students in their division.

Registrations have increased this year (13 more than 2014) so it has been interesting to fit it all together in the timing realm! We are grateful to UPS and their welcoming and cordial hospitality towards WSMTA. This annual event is open to the public and we encourage you to stop in to listen to some of the students who will represent 23 WSMTA teachers this Fall.

Cherie Felts, OAC Chair

WSMTA/MTNA Performance Competitions

The date is fast approaching: November 13-15, 2015 at the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, WA.

Piano competitions will be held on all three days. Strings will be competing Friday and Saturday (November 13 and 14). Woodwinds will be competing on Saturday and Sunday (November 14 and 15).

Our judges this year include: **Piano** - Kay Zavislak, Cameron Bennett, Michael McQuay; **Strings** - Quinton Morris, Tim Betts, Alistair MacRae; **Woodwinds** - Erik Steighner, Sandra Saathoff, Jennifer Rhyne. We are thrilled they are available to listen and comment on our students' performances!

If **YOU** can help out we would love to see you. Please contact Onnie Adams at onnelle@aol.com. Thank you to all who have already volunteered to help. We couldn't do this event without you. There are 117 entrants (133 students) representing 48 teachers. It promises to be a fantastic weekend. Hope to see you there!

Karen Hollenback, NCTM
WSMTA Performance Competitions Chair



Whitman College campus

Membership

(Continued from Page 3)

Corrections to the Annual List

(Continued from Page 3)

MAIL ONLY via the October CLARION

Board of Directors

President, Janice Smith's phone number should be: **509-467-8147** (It also needs to be corrected in her **Education Board** listing as an Ex-Officio Member).

Board of Directors Committee Chairs

Arts Advocacy Chair, Debra Florian's email should be:

flostudio@comcast.net

Education Board Committee Chairs

MTNA Young Artist/Chamber Music Chamber Music Competition Coordinator, Laura Curtis' email should be:

curtislj@whitman.edu

Chapter Presidents

Kitsap County President, Melanie Harris is a **NCTM**.

ALL WSM TA MEMBERS

Board of Directors

District VI Vice President, Onetta Adams' email address should be:
onnelle@aol.com.

Chapter Presidents

The new Eastside Chapter President is **Julie Howe, NCTM, 215 129th Ave NE, Bellevue, WA 98005**.

Clarkston-Lewiston President, Lori Germer's email should be:
lori.germer@gmail.com.

Wenatchee Valley President, Diane Stober's email should be:
dalsegno1@aol.com.



Whitman Admin. Bldg.

Education

Caroline Berry, WSM TA Student Teacher Chair

Editor's Note: Carlie is also Treasurer of the WSU Student Association for Musical Advocacy, Vice President of the WSU Collegiate Chapter of MTNA, and a WSU Piano Pedagogy Lab School Teacher.



Caroline Berry

Hello fellow music educators,

I am excited to be serving as your new Student Teacher Chair! This position is meaningful to me because my teaching experiences as a high school student fostered my love for education and were a significant influence in my decision to obtain a music degree and pursue teaching as a life-long vocation. I learned so much through observing my own teachers, and the experience of teaching while in high school allowed me to bring my questions and problems to my teachers and benefit from their insights, while at the same time gaining practical, hands-on experience.

I highly recommend the Student Teacher Program to any middle or high school student who has a love for music and a desire to share that passion with others. I also encourage established teachers to look to their own studios for students who may be inclined to teach, and take an active part in fostering the next generation of music educators by being a resource and mentor to them through the Student Teacher Program.

Be sure to "like" the WSM TA Student Teacher Facebook page (search for "Washington State Music Teachers - Student Teacher Program") which has just been revamped! This page will feature weekly posts with links to websites, articles, and teaching resources that will be especially helpful for the music educator. All teachers, and especially student teach-

ers, are encouraged to "like" this page to get teaching tips and connect with other teachers. I am looking forward to another year of great teaching and learning, and hope you will join me!

*Carlie Berry, WSM TA
Student Teacher Chair*

The Spirit of Competition

In the middle of this month, many of our most eager and dedicated students will descend on Tacoma to perform in the state competitions for MTNA as well as WSM TA's Outstanding Artist Competition. These competitions are always a highlight of the WSM TA calendar, and a significant component of the educational outreach toward which we strive.

One way in which we can support our students (and our colleagues) is by promoting and embodying the educational value of competition. Win or lose, our students have accomplished much simply by preparing for these events. The countless hours of practice, the challenging repertoire, the run-throughs and studio recitals, that final "push" at the end challenging them to reach beyond their potential – they all contribute to a sense of achievement that should be felt by every student who participates.

The learning isn't just "top-down," either. Encourage students to listen to their peers and get to know each other. Meeting others with the same passion and dedication to their art is invaluable to their growth and maturity. They might even hear that next piece they just can't live without and that will challenge them even more in the coming year!

Modeling a healthy attitude toward competition can do wonders for our students and fellow teachers. While you are at it, don't forget to thank those behind-the-scenes volunteers who made this educational opportunity possible for our students. Karen Hollenback, Cherie Felts and their teams of WSM TA members have worked hard to make this experience as positive and informative for everyone as it can be.

*Jeffrey Savage, NCTM
WSM TA Education Board Chairman*

I am excited to welcome two WSMTA members who recently completed certification in piano! Congratulations to **Laura Dean, NCTM** (Seattle) and **Tien-Yin Chen, NCTM** (Snohomish County). If you are currently working on or considering certification, consult with your newly certified colleagues for some additional insight into the process and encouragement.

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 reimbursement process started for you!

I received the following letter this week from Laura Dean, NCTM who received her certification this month. May her words be encouraging as you consider MTNA certification!

As always, please call or email me with any questions you have along the way.

Rose Freeman, NCTM
WSMTA Certification Chair
425-248-9288
pianoteacherose@gmail.com

"An exciting envelope arrived in the mail today. It was a letter from MTNA congratulating me on my successful completion of the MTNA Professional Certification. I've been teaching piano in Seattle for the past 20 years. (In the words of Paul Simon...*still crazy after all these years*). Some of the highlights include running a bustling studio, earning a Masters in Music Education, and playing in some wonderful venues near and far as the Aleutian Islands, France, and Mexico. These were all thrilling career milestones, to be sure. However, this recent certification ranks right up there in professional satisfaction. Why?

Working through the five teacher profile projects of the certification process required me to present my teaching philosophy, teaching methods, business practices, physical studio/materials, and my own playing.

Not only does the certification provide validation of my commitment and competency as a professional music teacher, the process also allowed me to reflect on and write about some thought provoking questions such as these:

Why do I teach? I cannot change the world, but my corner is bright with music, creativity, and vitality as I help my students along their individual paths. I learn so much from my students.

How do I teach? The number one lesson in twenty years of teaching is one size does not fit all, the teacher needs to work with each student toward their goals. For some, that might mean learning to read lead sheets or play standards from musicals. Others may want to learn a full program and play in festivals.

What works? Warming up the body away from the piano, drumming, listening to magnificent performances, assigning engaging repertoire, thoughtful teaching, and planning. Above all, a sense of humor!

What doesn't work? Boring, uninspiring repertoire, lack-luster lessons that are the same every week, and forcing students into a one size fits all curriculum.

What can be improved? There is room for improvement in every aspect of my teaching. For example, while analyzing the videos of my work with one student, I realized I was pushing the student to learn the piece on my schedule rather than allowing adequate time for him to master the piece on his time line. How many other times have I done this in my teaching?

This is a snippet of the progress and some of the benefits of MTNA certification. Go ahead, start down the certification path, it will add a spark to your teaching, enliven your studio, and your students will benefit greatly. Before you know it, that envelope will be arriving at your doorstep with a fancy MTNA certification certificate!"

Laura Dean, NCTM
lauramusic@comcast.net

With fall well underway, I hope your young composers have begun creating their compositions. And it's not too late to start! Final editing seems to take longer than one would expect so getting a project underway before the holidays is a good plan.

I'll also be taking advantage of our WSMTA website and post content that may be useful in the areas of musical composition resources, notation software information, and other technologies. To access this material, please go to the WSMTA website and you will find the Young Composers Project page under "Programs for Students" > "Competitions".

Carol Karlak, YCP Chair

ADJUDICATIONS

The 5 R's to Easier, Better Adjudications

Change is inevitable. In order to grow, we need to embrace it. Everyone will benefit if you REVISE the way you do things. If you need help....ASK! We are a friendly, helpful organization. Last year 44% of our teachers participated in adjudications. Were you one of them?

This program is for you! Yes, your students benefit, but it's really a wonderful way for you to improve your teaching. Isn't that one of the reasons you joined WSTMA??

As we prepare our students for adjudications, here are some helpful 'hints' which will make the process go easier and more smoothly.

1. **READ/REVIEW.** When we look at trying to solve issues that arise, the bottom line almost always boils down to 'people don't read' what's provided. We've made it easy for you...all the information you need is on the website www.wsmta.org. We all have the same 24 hours in a day. If you don't have time to do this, you will most likely not have the best experience. Take the time to prepare yourself NOW so that everyone will have the best experience.

2. **ROUND** out minutes purchased i.e. for level I which is 8 minutes, purchase 2 extra minutes to make it 10 minutes total. This saves you, the adjudications chair, and the adjudicator a lot of headaches. Plus, then you automatically have student passing time factored in which is often not considered.

3. **REPERTOIRE** – *Grading of repertoire* (i.e. the level) is not as important as buying minutes based on the time needed. Repertoire grading is very diverse and disputed so don't get hung up on trying to find the 'exact' level. You only need to differentiate between lower (I-III) and upper (IV-VIII) for Honors Recital number selection purposes. As long as you are in the correct general area, then base it on the time. **Here is a simple formula** for figuring out the time of a piece. **Multiply the number of measures in the piece by the number of beats in a measure. Then divide by the metronome marking (or whatever tempo you and your student have chosen for the piece). This gives you the # of minutes it will take to play the piece. For example: 100 measures X 4 (for 4/4 time) equals 400. Divide this by 120 (MM =120) equals 3.33. So the piece is 3 minutes and a third (20 seconds) long. Round up to 4 minutes.**

The playing of a piece should only take up half the time purchased or less, so this student should have a minimum of 8 minutes of adjudications time.

4. **REGISTRATION** – Use the worksheet, use the worksheet, use the worksheet on the website! *We are charged .30. for every credit card transaction, so if you 'register' several times, you are costing WSMTA more money.* The biggest error is forgetting to register yourself (the teacher) as well as your students. If you download and use the worksheet, then you can do your reviewing and adjusting on that, plus have an accurate record for yourself. If you take this step, then the actual online registration will take only a few minutes and double-checking your entry is easy. If the total monies in the online registration equal the total on your worksheet, you've entered everything you need to!

5. **REMEMBER** - Member access to the website and all data gets 'wiped' by July 1st. Pay your dues as early as possible. Yearly membership is from July 1 to June 30. Waiting until the Fall to renew membership cuts your year short. You **MUST** be registered by Oct. 15th to participate in adjudications.

Dorie Guidon
WSMTA Adjudications Chair

TECH NOTES

During October, new content was posted on the WSMTA website member dashboard. I hope you will login and look around. Some of the material is specific to WSMTA programs such as Adjudication Registration tips and help. Other content is more general in nature. But all of it is designed to help you navigate the registration systems more easily, to assist you with any technical issues that arise in using the WSMTA website, and to provide technical resources of a more general nature.

Carol Karlak,
WSMTA Technical Liaison

Program Reports

HALL OF FAME

Call for 2016 Hall of Fame Candidates

Ahhh... 'tis the season for expressing gratitude to our families, friends, students, and colleagues for the richness of meaning they give our lives. It is also the season that new members join our chapters looking to us for wisdom and guidance in the art of teaching music. I was so heartened at our September meeting when Jenessa and Sarah, two former students, and Hannah, a high school senior, joined our chapter! These enthusiastic young women are so eager to be a part of our wonderful group of nurturing and experienced teachers, and we are so grateful as a chapter to have them and other transfer members as valuable contribu-

tors, knowing our chapter will thrive and live on into the next century!

It is said that for everything there is a season, and the season is upon us to honor those among us for the WSMTA Hall of Fame, those who have raised the level of excellence in music education at the local, state or national level! Through your recommendation, a form which is printed in the November and December Clarions, you can nominate a colleague or mentor worthy of this special recognition. Three recipients can be chosen per year, so start the process soon as it does take time to contact those who could write letters of recommendation. Call me if I can help you get your process started. Deadline is January 8, 2016!

Paul Twedt from Tacoma Chapter and Annabelle Wall of TriCities Chapter were inducted into the WSMTA Hall of Fame 2015 for their life-changing contributions and dedication to their students, chapters and community!

I am so grateful for our organization and all the teachers who serve our communities, and I look forward to receiving the packets for our 2016 nominees. It is the season of their lives to be recognized!

Sincerely,

Mary Ellen Cavelti, NCTM
Hall of Fame Chair
253-845-2358

molly60music@comcast.net

Enrichment

IMTF Corner

We all know that behind every great music student is a great music parent. Feel free to give this fantastic letter to your students' parents. (Printed with permission from Jupiter instruments and edited by me to fit private lessons teachers)

Bonnie Blanchard, NCTM
IMTF Chair

Dear Parents:

It is with great excitement that I welcome your family to our music program! Learning to play a musical instrument and acquiring the unique habits of mind that come with it is one of the most incredible opportunities you can offer your child. Playing an instrument has the power to transform their lives in ways that no

other endeavor can. In addition to musical accomplishments, this year your child will learn to:

1. Be patient and persistent with difficult tasks;
2. Delay gratification by working in order to sound better;
3. Develop curiosity, problem solve, and cultivate *grit*.

You play a vital role in the musical education of your child, and you can be successful at this even if you don't believe yourself to be musical! Supporting your child at home is easy and fun — if you can teach them to wash dishes, you can help them develop a healthy practice routine at home, and I will assist you along the way. In the meantime, there are only a few things you need to keep in mind to ensure that your child enjoys music as part of their life for years to come:

1. **Treat music as a long-term commitment right from the start.** Students who identify that they will play their instrument for longer than one year outperform students who only commit to one year of playing by up to 400% — *practicing the same amount of time if not less!* The ideas and mindsets students bring to their musical instrument study have a direct effect on their success, and it's the parents' role to set the tone on the first day by not giving their child an "easy out" to quit. Make the decision to invest in your child's music education for at least a few years of their schooling and you will see incredible results *this year*.
2. **Treasure the escape from "high-stakes" studies.** It seems that everywhere we turn, academic expectations run higher and panic begins to set in about acing the exam, not marring the transcript, or keeping up with "high-achieving" peers. Music gives children the room to find their genuine passions, the freedom to discover true independence, and the space to fail and bounce back.
3. **Embrace the "offline" time.** Your child's ability to become a deep and complex person relies so much upon their ability to build their attention span. In our lightning-fast digital world, children do not have enough opportunity to build understanding and intelligence through mindful solitary activities. Musical instru-

ment instruction facilitates this offline, "slow world" learning.

4. **Understand that your child's instrumental music experience is just as (if not more) crucial to their growth as human beings than any other subject.** Music is much more than a "special" or a "frill" subject — it is a *core subject*, and it should be approached that way by *all of us*. Home practice should be treated as an essential part of the homework routine. When taught well and supported at home, the craft of learning a musical instrument develops *fortitude, willpower, and metacognitive skills* that parents stay up at night hoping their children have when they grow up.
5. **Don't let your child quit too soon.** All children are capable of enjoying a successful K-12 music experience with a little support. By not letting your child quit, you are sending a clear message that you believe playing a musical instrument cultivates crucial "non-cognitive" skills that matter so much in the grown-up world. Spend 5-10 minutes a night helping your child create a practice routine and they will be far less likely to become frustrated and quit too early in their studies.

At the beginning of every school year I am not only passionate about growing a new generation of musician, music lover, and future patron of the arts — I am determined to arm our children with the tools to become great thinkers, citizens, and lifelong lovers of learning. I will take care of the musical instruction on my end, but the actions of parents assisting their children's practice at home, accompanied with a long-term commitment to their children staying in music lessons will ensure that they receive the best education our schools have to offer.

Please join me in what I know will be a transformative experience for your child this year.

Sincerely,

Your Instrumental Music Teacher

About the Author

Anthony Mazzocchi is a GRAMMY nominated trombonist music educator. For more articles concerning music parent involvement, see www.musicparents.com

ARTS ADVOCACY

Arts Advocacy--A New Focus

Arts Advocacy has a new job description, focusing on raising the visibility of our local, state and national associations in our communities via **publicity**, using a variety of means and media; **collaboration with other arts organizations**; and **building community partnerships**. All of our chapters have great activities and programs to benefit our students and teachers. Our plan is to employ strategies to let our *communities* know about them!

There are many benefits to publicizing who we are and what we're doing, several of which directly impact membership: **Parents** will want their children studying with a WSMTA teacher; **Non-member Teachers** will be drawn to the opportunities for their students, and for their own professional development.

State and local officers and chairs: Consider how you might broaden the public awareness of state and chapter activities. Chapter presidents, consider appointing a publicity chair. With your Board, be *intentional* and *creative* about publicizing your events throughout the year. It doesn't need to be costly, although as time goes on you may wish to provide a budget for publicity needs. Something as simple as providing an email invitation (or hard copy) for students to invite friends to recitals or festivals can be quite effective at minimal cost.

There are a number of helpful resources available on the MTNA website (MTNA.org: click on Membership Resources/Leadership Resources/Publicity). I will be sharing more specific ideas in future articles. And please share **your** publicity efforts with me. I'd like to include some success stories in future articles as well!

Debra Florian, NCTM
WSMTA Arts Advocacy Chair
flostudio@comcast.net



Tsutakawa Fountain,
Whitman Campus

TOGETHER IS MORE FUN!!!! "Beethoven believed duets were so important to music education that he asked Czerny, who was teaching Beethoven's nephew, Karl, to be sure that Karl practiced duets every day. Schumann instructed his students to do the same." (from an interview with Weekley & Arganbright, published in Keyboard Companion, Autumn 2005, p. 56).

Ensemble playing offers students the joys of making music with someone else while developing musicianship, technique, and superior listening and communication skills. With the Twentieth Century advances in communication, duet playing was somewhat forgotten. Then we had the rise of duet music with Weekley & Arganbright, and now have the MTNA national duet competition for high school students sponsored by them. The caliber of this event is amazing!! The time and place to start ensembles is in the beginning levels. Most method books have many student/teacher duets to advance this process. But here are a few new sheet music ensembles to motivate your students and energize your studios for the fall:

Elementary Duets

Wendy Stevens: The Knight's Quest (EE)	Hal Leonard
Elvina Pearce: At the Lake (E-LE)--6 solos and 4 duets	Hal Leonard
Wynn-Anne Rossi: Musica Latina para Dos Bk 1 (LE)	Alfred

Intermediate Duets

Robert Vandall: Go for It (EI)	Alfred
Mike Springer: Village Folk Dance (EI)	Alfred
Ikeda: Morning Rain (mid Int)	Hal Leonard
Ikeda: Jam Session (mid Int)	Hal Leonard
Jennifer & Mike Watts: Surf's Up (I)	Hal Leonard
Jennifer & Mike Watts: Roller Coaster & Rides (I)	Hal Leonard
Joyce Grill: High Five (I)	Alfred
Robert Vandall: Chicagoland Duet Suite (I)	Alfred
Lopez: Frozen (I)	Hal Leonard
Changhee Lee: Mambo (Late Int)	Hal Leonard
Dan Coates: Duets of Pop& Rock, Beautiful Ballads, Classic Rock (I-LI)	Alfred
Wynn-Anne Rossi: Musica Latina para Dos Bks 2-4 (I-LI)	Alfred
Weekley & Arganbright/Dett: Juba Dance	Kjos

Intermediate 2P4H

Eugenie Rocherolle: Little Blues Concerto (EI)	Hal Leonard
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Intermediate 2P8H

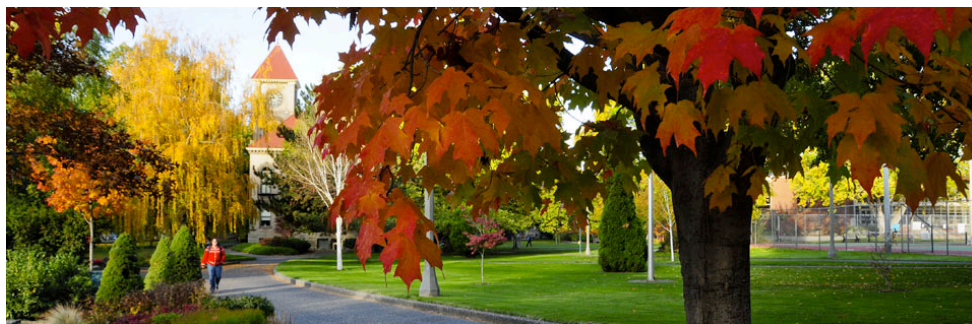
Melody Bober: Over the Rainbow (LI)	Alfred
Melody Bober: Don't Stop Believin' from Glee (LI)	Alfred

Advanced 2P4H

Anderson & Roe: Sleigh Ride (very Adv)	Alfred
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At a recent workshop I gave on "Together is More Fun," the teachers especially liked the duets from "At the Lake" by Elvina Pearce, "High Five" by Joyce Grill, "Little Blues Concerto" by Eugenie Rocherolle, and Melody Bober's 2P8H pieces, "Don't Stop Believin'," and "Over the Rainbow."

Phyllis Pieffer, NCTM
New Music Chair



Washington State Music Teachers Association

PRESENTATION PROPOSAL FORM

(Due date has been extended)

WSMTA 2016 Conference ~ June 21 - 24, 2016 ~ Whitman College, Walla Walla, Washington

Topic to be considered: _____

Title of presentation: _____

Please attach a description of your topic. *Presentations are limited to 50 minutes in length. Topics by or for vocalists, instrumentalists and general teaching will get special consideration. Please indicate if there are any specific days during the above dates that you will not be available.*

Audio-visual equipment needed:

Presenter:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

DUE DATE: November 20, 2015

WSMTA member presenters will receive a discount on their conference registration.

Please send this completed form to:

Laura Curtis, Conference Chair
155 Thorne
Walla Walla, WA 99362

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more information at
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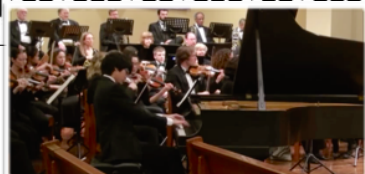


2016 Chopin Festival NW

Applications now available online: www.chopinnw.org

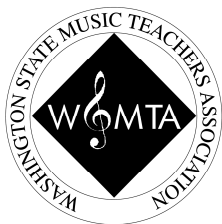
ONLINE REGISTRATION PERIOD: OCTOBER 1, 2015 to DECEMBER 31, 2015.

Maximum 140 applicants will be accepted.



Competition: Saturday, January 23, 2016 at Bellevue Presbyterian Church, starting at 9 am. Gold Medalists' Concert: January 31, 2016 UW Brechemin Auditorium at 2 pm. Silver Medalists' Concert: January 31, 2016 UW Brechemin Auditorium at 5 pm. Concerto or Andante Spianato & Grand Polonaise Winner's Concert with Orchestra Seattle, Saturday, April 16, 2016, 7:30 p.m. at First Free Methodist Church with Maestro Clinton Smith, Conductor.

- **7 AGE DIVISIONS, INCLUDING ADULT DIVISION and CONCERTO DIVISION! CONCERTO DIVISION WINNER WILL PERFORM WITH ORCHESTRA SEATTLE IN THEIR 2016 CONCERT SEASON.**
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- **Questions? Please contact Allan Park at 425-623-3000 or allanpark@me.com**



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Teachers Association
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DATES 'N DEADLINES

Nov. 13-15: MTNA Performance Competition at UPS

Nov. 13-15: WSMTA Outstanding Artist Competition at UPS

*This issue is loaded with
interesting articles
&
photos of the beautiful
Whitman College Campus!*

Visit your WSMTA website
at www.wsmta.org
to see The CLARION
in full color!

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- ◆ **President's Corner: Time Management** (Pages 1 & 3)
- ◆ **BRAVO: *CHEERS & APPLAUSE* to teacher members for donating time and talent** (Pages 1 & 3)
- ◆ **State Conference 2016: Beautiful Walla Walla** (Pages 1 & 4)
- ◆ **Updates on MTNA Competition & OAC Competition** (Page 4)
- ◆ **Corrections to annual WSMTA Officers, Committee Chairs & Chapter Presidents List** (Page 4)
- ◆ **Call for Hall of Fame Candidates** (Page 7)
- ◆ **Updated 2016 Conference Presentation Proposal form** (Page 10)