

President's Corner



New technologies dominate the news: the latest smart phone, self-driving cars, 3-D printers, drones, robotics. With the imminent approach of Christmas and the associated gift giving, quite a few of my students will receive "technology" gifts that they will love and obsess with. Personally, I enjoy many of the benefits of our modern life. I own a smart phone, robotic vacuum, HD tablet, Chromecast, wireless speakers + more. But I also have a piano that has not changed substantially for many, many years. The same can be said for clarinets, violins, flutes, trumpets... and the instrument that wins the longevity prize: the human voice. Music teachers enjoy the best of both old and new. Many of us incorporate new technologies with our old-world instruments and blend the instruction in order to relate to students and parents whose lives are structured by the conveniences and advantages of the 21st century. We also have to battle against short attention spans and the instant gratification that technology provides. Music learning requires focus and the rewards come as delayed gratification.

Technology is beneficial to teachers also, as it assists us in the operational and business aspects of owning a music studio. Yet, we can become caught in the middle: training students and practicing ourselves with an instrument does not supply immediate gratification while also trying to learn and implement tech skills and applications which change on a weekly, if not daily, basis. In order to stay competitive in the business of music teaching we end up in a juggling act to maintain student interest and practice, accommodate parent schedules and demands, ...

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BRAVO!

WSMTA Executive Manager Judith Price Retiring!



No, NO!! We are NOT applauding Judy's retirement! Quite the opposite. We want to let everyone know what a priceless (pun intended) treasure she has been to this organization for so very many years now. Please read the following testimonies from several WSMTA members who have worked closely with her.

From Robin Chadwick, NCTM, MTNA Foundation Fellow:

"Judy Price is one of the most dedicated WSMTA members I know.

In addition to serving as WSMTA president for two terms, she also served MTNA as secretary/treasurer and was active in the Olympia Chapter of WSMTA. She has lived a life of service. As Executive Manager of WSMTA, she has literally kept the organization running, fielding thousands of questions from chapters and individual members and solving many problems, in addition to dealing with the mountains of paperwork her job entails.

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See Winners on Pages 4 & 5:
MTNA Composition Competition
MTNA Performance Competition
Outstanding Artist Performance Competition

Coming Events

Walla Walla, Washington: Not just Looney Tunes



Oh sure, you've heard about the cat from the "Little, Giant Vacuum Cleaner Company of Walla Walla, Washington" trying to sell stuff to Sylvester, and Daffy Duck working for "Ace Novelty Company of Walla Walla, Washington".

You may even know that when Bugs Bunny visits Transylvania he uses magic words (like Abracadabra and Hocus Pocus) and "Walla Walla, Washington" turns a vampire into a two-headed buzzard.

But in addition to sounding funny, Walla Walla is a real gem of a town in the Eastern Washington desert ...

... and a great place for our State Conference, June 21 - 24, 2016!



Guest Artist: Theresa Bogard

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WSMTA & Clarion Information

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

WSMTA Executive Office

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

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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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Membership

Welcome New Members!

Eastside
Bethsheba Marcus

Gig Harbor
Sarah Hoenig
Tarra Winslow

Kitsap County
Amy Tanaka

Lynden
Brenna VanderHeiden

Tri City
Charith Bagley

Important Address Change New Executive Manager

As of Dec. 1, Kirsten Carlson is our new Executive Manager. Please note the email and address changes in the WSMATA Executive Office column to the left on this page.

President's Corner

(Continued from Page 1)

. . . continue with our own professional advancement and even fitting in a bit of a personal life.

To create balance and inspire students to stay with these timeless instruments in a busy world full of distraction and fast-paced technologies, you should try the December Tool-of-the-Month: WSM TA BLENDER + Recipe

Use the WSM TA BLENDER with the following recipe:

- **Select** students, parents, colleagues and others who may benefit from the blending of technology, personality, instrument and music. You may select yourself, too!
- **Add** resources from the MTNA website and especially the MTNA Conference sessions you have attended and will be attending in 2016.
- **Season** with WSM TA events coming up in your chapter and/or district. Your participation adds spice and flavor to your instructional and personal life!
- **Incorporate** the knowledge of your association colleagues and friends to increase your ability to work with new technologies such as metronome and rhythms apps, ear-training software, and online music resources. Your young students will enjoy the new ideas and their enthusiasm will carry back to the parents, too.
- **Measure** your time and calendar commitments to allow for healthy portions of:
 - Training and/or instruction in new technology;
 - Practice and instruction with timeless instruments;
 - Friendship, mentoring and enjoyment of your professional support network;
 - Personal growth, relaxation and family.
- **Spin** together for a nourishing recipe for success! Everyone will benefit from your personal medley of knowledge and experience.

This recipe of course may be personalized or changed in any way that works for your specific blending needs. Maybe you already have a high-protein variety or a lean, mean machine that spins out a great combination of successful students, happy

parents and a large network of friends and colleagues. If so – please mentor and share your success. That what makes WSM TA a vital organization that holds broad appeal across many tastes and palates.

The recipes and mixtures are endless, so bring out your Blender Tool and create your personal combination of new technology with timeless instruments and music. And of course – share your tasty treat with others!

Janice Smith, NCTM
WSM TA President

CHEERS & APPLAUSE!

As the year comes to a close WSM TA has much to cheer about – from the members who volunteer at the chapter level, to our state leadership officers, board members and committee chairs. Our organization remains vital and dynamic as a result of the many hours of work and dedication contributed.

We are seeing a change in two key leadership positions: **Judy Price, NCTM** is now retired and enjoying her family and grandchildren. **Robin Chadwick, NCTM**, is turning over the reins of the MTNA Foundation Fund into the very capable hands of **Peter Mack, NCTM**. Both Judy and Robin will remain active members, advising and sharing their wisdom and experience as WSM TA moves into 2016.

In January, the Northwest Division Performance Competition is taking place in Missoula, MT. **Dianne Johnston, WSCTM**, is the competition coordinator and she has not only recently assisted at the MTNA Performance Competition in November, but has graciously accepted this job, too. Of course many of you know that Dianne is a past adjudications chair, and past WSM TA president.

As a group “Applause”, I would like to acknowledge our six Collegiate Chapters and their advisors:

- **Eastern Washington University – Jody Graves, NCTM**
- **Western Washington University – Jeff Gilliam, NCTM**
- **Whitworth University – Judith Schoepflin, NCTM**
- **Washington State University – Karen Savage, NCTM**

- **Trinity Lutheran College – Stephen Earl Marshall-Ward**
- **Seattle Pacific University – Myrna Capp, NCTM**

Our **WSM TA Collegiate Student Chapter Chair** is **Jensina Oliver** – Cheers to Jensina for her work and dedication to coordinate our collegiate teaching program.

These groups provide resources, education, events and socialization for young music educators. WSM TA values the collegiate members and their advisors as they continue to bring excellence to the next generation of teachers.

If you feel a group or individual member deserves Cheers & Applause, please contact me. I enjoy featuring all of the dedicated efforts that occur on a daily, weekly, monthly and annual basis in our organization. Happy Holidays and a very Happy New Year to all of my WSM TA friends and colleagues!

Janice Smith, NCTM
WSM TA President
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BRAVO!

(Continued from Page 1)

Judy Price Retiring!

Through it all she has been courteous, kind, and very, very efficient. She was so helpful to me when I was Education Board Chair. I could not have done the job without her! She has been a WONDERFUL Executive Manager, and she will be missed!”

From Gary Alan Hind, CLARION Editor:

“Judy Price is the most outstanding combination of good humor and efficiency of any professional I have ever worked with. She has literally been my partner in editing The CLARION! Her ability to spot the tiniest error is uncanny and speaks to her thoroughness when approaching any subject of concern to her. Many of us who have had the pleasure of working with her will miss her very, very much. I don’t know how we will get along without her. I feel like I’m losing a best friend. Don’t go away too far, Judy...please...”

Meet your new WSMTA Executive Manager: Kirsten Carlson



Kirsten is a member of the Seattle chapter where she currently serves on the board as Vice President of Recitals. For the previous two years, she was General Meeting Program Director for SMTA (arranged and coordinated presenters for seven general meetings each year).

Since 1995, Kirsten has taught flute, recorder, theory and composition to students of a variety of ages and levels in Ottawa and Seattle. She has been a freelance musician since 1995, playing in a variety of ensembles including a flute quartet for ten years.

Kirsten has been a volunteer or worked with volunteers most of her life (she started at the hospital at the age of fourteen) and understands and enjoys the complexities of working with volunteers. In addition to her work in the Seattle Chapter, Kirsten volunteers in the gift shop and on the board of the Friends of the Conservatory at the Volunteer Park Conservatory.

Over the years as a volunteer for the Ontario Registered Music Teachers Association (ORMTA - Ottawa Branch), Kirsten organized a Provincial Convention - booked the hotel, scheduled events, and arranged for speakers and exhibitors, edited the local branch newsletter and the provincial newsletter magazine and served as President and as Secretary of the Ottawa branch.

When interviewed for this job, Kirsten's friendly personality, intelligence and enthusiasm for WSMTA was very apparent, and I am thrilled that she will be the next Executive Manager. Judy Price will be greatly missed, but you will all find Kirsten to be an excellent successor!

*Janice Smith, NCTM
WSMTA President*

MTNA Composition Competition

Congratulations to all students who participated in the Washington State division of this year's MTNA Composition Competition -- teachers and parents too! It takes a lot of courage to submit your own composition to be judged, and we salute you for enriching your own skill, as well as our wider musical community with your submission.

Our winners this year are:

Elementary: Noelle Paek
Teacher: Sharon Van Valin

Junior: Gannon Forsberg
Teacher: Van Valin

Senior: Ariel Hsieh
Teacher: Van Valin

Young Artist: Alex Worland
Teacher: Martin Kennedy

This year, the Washington State judges were:

Dr. David Crumb, Professor of Composition and Theory at University of Oregon

Dr. Bill Whitley, Professor of Composition at the University of Idaho

Dr. Greg Youtz, Professor of Music at Pacific Lutheran University

Winning compositions will automatically advance to the Division Competition. The results of that competition will be announced in mid-December. Winners will also be invited to perform their compositions at the State Conference in June.

Once again, congratulations to all participants in the competition! We hope the comments from the judges were helpful to you and your teacher. Your efforts are to be applauded, and we hope you continue to grow in your musical studies. Good luck in the future!

*Dr. Martin Kennedy, WSMTA/MTNA
Composition Competition Chair
Director of Composition & Theory
Central Washington University*

MTNA Performance Competitions

By the time you are reading this Washington State's MTNA Performance Competition is over for another year. The following winners are preparing to move on to the Division competition in January.

Chamber Music String

Place: Name-Instrument (Teacher)
Win.: Daana Quartet (Melia Watras)
Corentin Pokorny-violin; Erin Kelly-violin;
Alessandra Barrett-violoncello; Sonja Myklebust-cello

Place: Name-Instrument (Teacher)

Alt.: Crimson Quartet (Ruth Boden)
Kirill Polyanskiy-Violin; Gigi Stephens-Violin;
Amelia Kittson-Viola; Keadrin Dick-cello;
Regan Siglin-piano

Chamber Music Wind

Place: Name-Instrument (Teacher)

Rep.: Horizon Quartet (Fred Winkler)
Asa Abbott-Alto Saxophone; David Decker-Baritone Saxophone; Kevin McCowan-Tenor Saxophone; Soren Hamm-Soprano Saxophone

Junior Performance Piano

Place: Name-Instrument (Teacher)

Win.: Janet Phang (Peter Mack)
Alt.: Edward Zhang (Sasha Starceovich)
H.M.: Megan Lu (Soonja Kim); Emily Park (Sasha Starceovich); Adrian King (Peter Mack)

Junior Performance String

Place: Name-Instrument (Teacher)

Win.: Marley Erickson-Violin (Simon James)
Alt.: Takumi Taguchi-Violin (Simon James)
H.M.: Stephen Leou-Cello (Leslie Marckx); Shintaro Taneda-Violin (Margaret Pressley)

Junior Performance Woodwind

Place: Name-Instrument (Teacher)

Win.: Minsoo Kwon-Flute (Bonnie Blanchard)
Alt.: Alexander Rosenbaum-Flute (Bonnie Blanchard)
H.M.: Kevin Sun-Flute (Katherine Emeneth); Robyn Jin-Flute (Katherine Emeneth); Bram Schenck-Clarinet (Mary Kantor); Alina B-Flute (Sarah Basingthwaighte)

Senior Performance Piano

Place: Name-Instrument (Teacher)

Win.: Leah Deobald (Duane Hulbert)
Alt.: Alexander Lu (Sasha Starceovich)
H.M.: Pearl Lam (Peter Mack)
Andrew Barnwell (Dainius Vaicekonis); Mya King (Peter Mack); Millicent McFall (Peter Mack)

Senior Performance String

Place: Name-Instrument (Teacher)

Win.: Madelyn Kowalski-Cello (Leslie Marckx)
Alt.: Evan Johanson-Violin (Simon James)
H.M.: Annie Quynhanh Pham-Violin (Leonid Keylin); Adrian Steele-Violin (Ron Patterson)

Senior Performance Woodwind

Place: Name-Instrument (Teacher)

Win.: Zoe Sheill-Flute (Bonnie Blanchard)
Alt.: Hannah Ko-Flute (Bonnie Blanchard)
H.M.: Thaddeus Sargeant-Flute (Sarah Basingthwaighte)

Senior Performance Piano Duet

Place: Name-Instrument (Teacher)

Win.: Janet Phang/Justin Cai (Peter Mack/Karlyn Brett)
Alt.: Heather Pincus/Brittany Pincus (Jennifer Bowman)

Young Artist Performance Piano

Place: Name-Instrument (Teacher)

Win.: Frankie Bones (Leonard Richter)

Alt.: Jeanette Ojala (Jeffrey Gilliam)
H.M.: Daniel Chong (Jeffrey Gilliam); Brooke Hage (Barbara Miller)

Young Artist Performance String

Place: Name-Instrument (Teacher)

Win.: Clara Fuhrman-Violin (Maria Sampen)

Alt.: Eunmin Woo-Violin (Maria Sampen)

H.M.: Sarah Lee-Violin (Carrie Michel)

Young Artist Performance Woodwind

Place: Name-Instrument (Teacher)

Win.: Soren Hamm-Saxophone (Fred Winkler)

Alt.: Crisha Joyner-Flute (Hal Ott)

H.M.: Minna Stelzner-Saxophone (Fred Winkler); Linden Elggren-Flute (Hal Ott)

With 117 entrants who registered for the competition this year from 48 different teachers' studios, this has been no small task to organize. And so, I want to thank several people for their long hours (and I mean LONG hours) coordinating various aspects of this huge event.

Thank you Karen Scholten, the junior performance coordinator, for your patience and "stick-to-it-ness" as we worked through computer viruses, draft schedules, revised draft schedules, program edits, re-edits and final proofing, and temporary traffic backups so the deer can cross the street.

Thank you Mary Kaye Owen, NCTM, the senior performance coordinator, for your numerous emails, follow-up emails and phone calls to students verifying performance times, warmup times and repertoire, all while keeping your calm demeanor and assuring your WSM TA Performance Competition Chair that all will be well in the end. How do you do all that and still keep smiling, or keep your eyes open?

Laura Curtis gets a huge thank you, as young artist and chamber performance coordinator, for your eagle eyes in catching typing mistakes that put students playing before their warm-ups, and her patience as we redid schedules yet again to avoid having accompanists playing for two students at the same time in different venues. Thanks for keeping me on track and moving forward despite the "re-dos" and "try-agains!"

Also we can't forget our amazing MTNA Director of Competitions at the national level, **Linda Stump, NCTM**, who responds immediately to emails full of questions, concerns and frustrations, unless she is out purchasing a new snowblower for the coming Colorado win-

ter—then it takes her 5 or 10 minutes longer!

Where would we be without our volunteer coordinator **Onnie Adams** who has spent untold hours finding and coordinating all of the amazing volunteers who supported our performing students as door monitors, timekeepers, practice room openers, check-in table staff, and the many other tasks that are needed to make this event a success? A HUGE thank you Onnie from the bottom of my heart for taking on this vital task.

Finally, many thanks to **Duane Hulbert and the University of Puget Sound**, for their willingness to host this event for us this year. Duane has been the recipient of many emails, phone calls and questions from me, and met with me several times to walk through the facilities so that we know where everything is located: from big things like buildings and parking lots, to smaller but essential items like light switches!

There are many others too numerous to mention here who have also generously given of their time and energy to make this event happen—please know that **I appreciate and thank each of you from the bottom of my heart!!** Without your efforts and generous gift of time this event would not happen for our talented students from Washington.

Congratulations to all students and teachers who participated this year. Good luck in January to all our winners.

*Karen Hollenback, NCTM
WSMTA-MTNA Performance
Competition Chair*

Outstanding Artist Performance Competition

2015 Outstanding Artist Competition Winners

Junior Division

Place: Winner (Teacher)

1st: Steve Silverberg (Peter Mack)

2nd: Eashan Vagish (Sasha Starceovich & Nino Merabishvili)

3rd: Anna Wang (Nicole Kim)

H.M.: Dora Ziyen Chen (Hong Liu); Lily Bai (Soonja Kim); SiQi He (Barbara Miller); Ryan Huang (Donna Bender); Jasmine Wen (Karlyn F. Brett); Andrea Liao (Anaida Nagdyan); Claire Jung (Donna Bender)

Senior Division

1st: Justin Zhu Cai (Peter Mack & Karlyn F. Brett)

2nd: Robert Yan (Ivona Kaminska Bowlby)

3rd: Alex Camai (Ivona Kaminska Bowlby)

H.M.: Catherine Kok (Peter Mack); Michael Yusov (Sasha Starceovich); Hyunjin Kim (Jennifer Bowman); Jonathon Lin (Sasha Starceovich)

Anytime of the year is an appropriate time to show gratitude and express thanks to friends and colleagues in our lives! As I am writing this for the December issue of the Clarion, we are preparing for Thanksgiving and Christmas so I am thinking more about being thankful for my family and friends!

The Outstanding Artist Competition took place November 13-15 at University of Puget Sound in Tacoma. It was a jam-packed schedule with more entrants this year. I thank **Duane Hulbert** and the Music Department for their help and gracious hospitality. I would like to thank **Jeffrey Savage** for his encouragement; **Judy Price** for her constant help at the Registration Table during the entire competition; **Jani Peterson** for extra research with titles, opus numbers, clarifications needed to make the printed program as accurate as possible and for formatting it as well as formats and research on bios and photos of our Judges for the program and the WSM TA Website. THANK YOU, Jani! To **Janice Smith**, our WSM TA President, my thanks for all her support and encouragement and help with presentation of participant certificates and awards. To **Dianne Johnston** and **Laurie Eash**, thank you for your gift of hospitality towards our Judges and WSM TA Leadership Team and Volunteers during the weekend of the competitions.

Thank you to our 2015 OAC Judges **Dr. Jeanine Jacobson**, **Mr. Greg Presley** and **Dr. Diane Baxter**. It has been a pleasure to work with you and to get to know you better as well. Our Volunteer Crew was an integral part of the competition and kept us moving ahead and on schedule and I thank them for their gift of time and energy! The following served from Olympia Chapter; **Maureen Johnson**, **Mary Jo Wright**, **Ignacio Diaz**, **Heidi Ritchey** and **Sue Dick** and from Tacoma Chapter; **Robin Watson** and **Mary Beth Denzer**. Thank you for saying YES when I asked you to come alongside and assist us.

Cherie Felts, OAC Chair

Seattle Chapter Student left off November Musicianship Examinations High Honors list

Please add Eli Waite, Level 4, student of Anne Reese, to your Seattle Chapter list. *Clarion Editor apologizes.*

Coming Events

WSMTA Conference, June 21-24

(Continued from Page 1)

Theresa Bogard is an internationally acclaimed pianist and outstanding teacher, who is currently the Music Department Chair at University of Wyoming. Her interests include historical performance practice, music of women composers, chamber music, traditional Balinese gamelan music, and contemporary music. Six of her students have been MTNA Performance Competition finalists. Look for more information regarding her conference presentations and recital in upcoming Clarions.

See you in June!

*Laura Curtis
Conference Chair*

Program Reports

Peter Mack: New MTNA Foundation Fund Chair

Our wonderful Robin Chadwick will be leaving her position as MTNA Foundation Fund Chair at the end of the year. Robin has done an outstanding job over the years and she will be missed, but she has secured a new chair: the highly-qualified and well-respected Dr. Peter Mack! As an MTNA Foundation Fellow and WSMTA member, Peter will do a great job, and I enthusiastically welcome him to the position.

*Janice Smith, NCTM
WSMTA President*

WSMTA Adjudication Subsidy Grants

Do you teach students who are financially disadvantaged? They would like to do WSMTA's adjudications, but they simply don't have the money to pay the fee? Perhaps this is due to an unexpected re-

dundancy, or the sudden illness of a wage-earner. Or maybe a family just isn't well off. Either way, WSMTA can help!

Two years ago, WSMTA's Board of Directors set up a Scholarship Fund of \$500 to help just such students. It fills a definite need; teachers from chapters all across the state have successfully applied for aid for students in piano, strings, and voice. It's open to those from all disciplines who do adjudications.

This program is aimed at students who do not participate in Music Link. As usual, Music Link students will continue to receive adjudication scholarships from WSMTA, and should continue to apply in the customary way.

So great was the demand, and so successful the program that WSMTA is repeating it in this, its third year. Here's how it works: Teachers apply on behalf of their students, either by using the form in this month's Clarion (**see Page 10**) or by visiting the WSMTA website and finding the form there. To be as fair as possible, teachers are asked to limit their applications to students with real financial need. There is a limit of two students per teacher. WSMTA adjudication subsidy grants will be awarded on a first-come first-served basis. Time is of the essence: when all the money is allocated, the grants will cease, so apply on behalf of your needy students today!

*Peter Mack, NCTM
MTNA Foundation Chair*

HALL OF FAME

Hall of Fame Call for Nominations

Each month I look forward to reading the Clarion because of its inspiring articles, valuable information, and sincere showing of appreciation for all who devote their lives to the success of our organization. I was particularly moved by Janice Smith's article in the President's Corner regarding time management and for the three solutions for burnout, practical guidelines for both the young and, dare I say, *OLD* teachers alike! ☺ I also loved seeing the recognition and acclaim of our colleagues under *Cheers and Applause* because of their excellence and

commitment to our goals as an organization.

The Hall of Fame committee will be meeting in early January and we are looking to you, the membership, to search among your mentors, teachers, and colleagues who represent a lifetime of contributions in several of the following categories: local, state, division or national MTNA work; university teacher, colleague, or school music teacher who has initiated unique programs; music therapy; bringing music into community with local band, choir, orchestra, summer camps, chamber music; music business; founder of music school or conservatory – notably, anyone who has gone above and beyond the call of duty to raise the standard of excellence, and to enrich the lives of everyone in their communities.

The number of Hall of Fame inductees each year is limited to three (3). With this in mind it is very important that you have letters of recommendation from former or present students and teachers, colleagues, etc., with the nominee's specific contributions and accomplishments that impacted and enriched the life of the contributor as well as the musical life of the community and state. Gather information and fill out the nomination form that can be found on the WSMTA website or in this issue of the Clarion (**Page 9**), as well as a roster of Hall of Fame recipients on the website.

Thank you so much for your consideration! The committee looks forward to receiving your nominations by January 9, 2016. The person who inspired you can be an inspiration to us all!

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

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Education

MusicLink

Are any of you teaching a student for a reduced rate or for free? If you are, please consider Music Link. (www.musiclinkfoundation.org). If you are charging 50% or less of your standard rate to a student you and your student may qualify for some help. Music Link Foundation is a win win set up for students who can't

afford the full cost of a lesson. An easy rule of thumb is if they qualify for a reduced or free lunch program at school.

Several music companies have agreed to reduced rates for their services to help these students. Music Link will also reimburse up to \$100 per year of expenses if you save your receipts. There are many other savings. We now have a Facebook page set up for teachers who are teaching qualified Music Link students as well as teachers who are signed up and willing to take on a student who qualifies. Look for Music Link Foundation Teachers to join the Facebook site if you are one of these teachers. Meanwhile, please check out the website above to learn more and email me if you have any further questions. I look forward to talking with you! Let's help make it possible for every child who wants to take music lessons be able to!

Karen Monroe MA, NCTM
Washington State Music Link Coordinator
karen@musicalnotestudio.com

"Music Link Teachers are desperately needed in the Snohomish and Vancouver area! If you can help, please contact Karen Monroe at Karen@musicalnote studio.com."

CERTIFICATION CORNER

One of my favorite Pacific Northwest activities is hiking. We live in a state where the variety of mountains, lakes, valleys, meadows, and trees are unsurpassed. Snow capped peaks give way to hillsides of wildflowers in the spring and frozen lakes melt to reflect the blue of the sky. As the leaves of deciduous trees turn, up in the alpine heights a golden surprise awaits. Nestled among the alpine wilderness, you would think the larch trees are just another pine tree. But, in the fall, their needled branches transform from green to a rich golden color making them the crown jewel of the fall landscape.

Golden alpine larches stand out among the other trees in the forest. Similarly, the process of National Certification sets you apart as a professional music teacher to best guide your students in their music journey! In order to be certified, you will complete five teacher profile projects that

will challenge, validate, and re-inspire you as a teacher. As we enter into a new year, set a goal to begin your certification!

It is my privilege to congratulate **Ivana Cojbasic, NCTM** (Spokane) who received her National Certification in Piano! To start the certification process, send in your application to MTNA (www.mtnacertification.org). When your application is approved, contact me and I'll get the short grant application process started for you. Certification grants reimburse you \$100, which is half the cost of your application fee! There are currently 5 certification grants available on a first come first serve basis.

Let's enter 2016 as a growing state of professional and inspiring music teachers! I challenge you to apply for certification before the end of December. By this time next year, the larches will be gold again and you will have completed your certification!

Give me a call or email anytime if you have any questions along the way!

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

Enrichment

PEDAL POINTS

From the Organ Chair

I would like to alert you to several upcoming organ-related educational opportunities for adults and youth.

Saturday, January 30, 2016, Plymouth Congregational Church, Seattle: 8:30AM-5:00PM "January Jubilee": an all day workshop for musicians and clergy sponsored by the American Guild of Organists (advance registration required). 7:30PM Concert by Michel Boulevard, Professor of Organ at the Paris Conservatory; Contact: Wanda Griffiths: wgrif@earthlink.net.

Various Dates and Locations (summer 2016): Pipe Organ Encounter (POE): Sponsored by the American Guild of Organists (advance registration required). POEs offer teenagers and adults a rewarding opportunity to learn more about

the pipe organ and its construction, instruction with experienced faculty, visits to hear and play outstanding instruments, and the chance to meet and interact with peers who share an interest in the King of Instruments. Highly recommended. Information: <https://www.agohq.org/education/poe/>

June 2016: Stay tuned for more information about the organ workshop at the WSMTA conference.

Joann S. Richardson, NCTM
WSMTA Chair for Organ
organistjoann@gmail.com

IMTF Corner

How to learn and memorize efficiently

Check out this article on how to study (and practice more efficiently).

<http://www.vox.com/2014/6/24/5824192/study-smarter-learn-better-8-tips-from-memory-researchers>

1) **Don't just read and re-read.** Use active learning like flashcards and quizzing yourself. When you go over the same material you have the sense of "I know this, I know this" and you are not processing it deeply. Retrieving information is what produces more robust learning and memory. Instead of playing the same section over and over and over, quiz yourself on what you know.

2) **Ask yourself lots of questions.** What comes next? What scale is this? How does this phrase differ from the one at letter A?

3) **Use flashcards.** Or cut the piece into small sections and try to learn or memorize that section. Keep all the cards, even the ones you know, in the deck.

4) **Don't cram.** You may get it right the next day but cramming doesn't lead to long term memory. Space repetition. Practice a little bit one day, take a break then practice it two days later. Spacing is really important.

5) **Teachers should mix up their lessons.** Put the material back in front of the student days or weeks later. Keep your lessons full of questions and review.

6) **There is no such person as a "math person."** Students who think they are not

naturally talented will assume they will hit their limit and there's a limit to how good they can get. Students with a growth mindset feel that learning involves effective strategies and lots of work. They will put aside time to do the work and then the sky is the limit. Students with a growth mindset tend to stick with it and tend to persevere in the face of difficulty. That work will make them better and become a self-fulfilling prophecy. Students with a fixed mindset have already given themselves a reason to give up.

How do they decide if they are "talented" or not? The teacher! From the first lesson act as if they are the first person to learn so quickly. Praise them for any small accomplishment and help them visualize the future (Wow! If you can learn that much in the first month, think of what you can do in a year! You are a natural.) Kids who think they can do it will from the beginning think of themselves as musicians and it all becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy started by you!

*Bonnie Blanchard, NCTM
IMTF Chair*

NEW MUSIC

"Together is More FUN!" Let's face it! Ensemble study can not only be more enjoyable than solo practice, but can also motivate your students to work harder so they do not lose face with fellow students/friends, learn how to play with another person(s) which promotes stronger rhythmic control and counting, and have so much more fun. Ensembles within the studio or for local association events can create a stronger learning environment and promote higher retention in your studio.

Robert Vandall can always be counted on to compose some "cool" sounding music. His new "Chicagoland Duet Suite" for Intermediate students is no exception. This Suite includes two pieces: 1) "The Windy City," a fast jazzy sounding duet with a syncopated chordal figure which changes parts; and 2) "Salt Creek Scherzo, a playful 6/8 with lots of staccatos and a descending secondo bass line.

Another new Vandall duet is "Go for It," which has equal primo and staccato

parts with a catchy five finger C major melody. This early intermediate duet is a great crowd pleaser.

If you are looking for some elementary through intermediate material, check out Wynn-Anne Rossi's **Musica Latina** duets. These four books present a wonderful selection of short South of the Border pieces with a little summation of each at the beginning about the character and origin. Great reading material for younger students.

Joyce Grill's "High Five" is another high energy piece in cut time with a one octave scale for one measure, sometimes divided between the hands, followed by a measure of quarter notes and a "High Five." This would be very appealing for intermediate students.

A new challenging 2P4H arrangement is "Sleigh Ride: A Holiday Excursion" arranged by Greg Anderson of the Anderson/Roe duo. This advanced work is stunning but demands two excellent readers with strong techniques.

Even though it is hard to schedule rehearsal time for 2P8H repertoire, it is well worth the effort for the camaraderie that develops among the students. Melody Bo-ber has two wonderful 2P8H pieces: 1) "Over the Rainbow" which features a rich texture and lush chordal sound in Bb major for late intermediate students; and 2) "Don't Stop Believin'" from **GLEE** in G major for intermediate students with a solid chord sound and good doubling of melodies for emphasis.

Another 2P8H ensemble work is the arrangement of Jack Fina's "Bumble Boogie" by Lucy Wilde Warren. This is great fun but requires perfect timing among the players. Any of these 2P8H ensembles would be great for monster concerts.

*Phyllis Pieffer, NCTM
New Music Chair*

MTNA News

SAVE ME A SEAT!

Are you attending the 2016 Conference in San Antonio? Are you thinking about attending the Gala? Our own **Dianne Johnston**, WSCTM and **Margaret Pressley** will be honored as MTNA Foundation Fellows, so you will want to be

there to congratulate and cheer their accomplishment!

WSMTA reserves tables for our members and we would love to have you join us. There will be small charge for the table reservations (separate from the Gala fee) and we will need to know soon if you will dine and celebrate with us that night – WSMTA members ALWAYS have a great time and we want YOU to be part of it!

Contact me via email, phone or text and I'll put you on the list to receive more details as information comes to us from MTNA.

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



District News

District III Conference

Midwinter Retreat with

Dr. Jody Graves ~

"The Heart of Performance"

Please join us for a Midwinter Retreat in a beautiful, historic setting. Led by the irrepressible Jody Graves, we will tap into the roots of our love of playing and sharing live music, and explore what this means to us as artists and as teachers. **This is a time to refresh our spirits, and renew the intention and purpose of our collective artistic mission!** District III encourages you to invite ALL your musician friends. Make this an opportunity to reach out and be visible in the community!

Saturday, February 6, 2016 - 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. at the Pagoda, 5715 Roberts Garden Rd, Pt. Defiance Park, Tacoma. SCHEDULE: morning session - 10:00 am to 12:00; lunch (included in the registration fee) - 12:00 to 1:00 pm; afternoon session - 1:00 to 3:00 pm. FEE: WSMTA members \$35, non-mem-

bers \$40, students \$20. After January 20 and day-of \$45.

For information, flyers and registration forms: Mary Foster Grant, mary@marygrantpiano.com

*Merry Christmas
& a Happy New Year
to All!*



Call for Nominations for HALL OF FAME

The Washington State Music Teachers Association **Hall of Fame** was established to give recognition for exceptional support, inspiration and outstanding contribution to the growth and development of music and music education, both public and private, in the State of Washington.

Members will be selected by the Hall of Fame Committee and will be honored at a State Conference banquet and/or by the State President on visiting the recipient's chapter.

Please take some time to think about outstanding music educators, teachers you have known, and supporters from the music industry who deserve this special recognition. To be selected by one's peers is one of the highest honors a person can receive.

Nominate someone to the Hall of Fame by completing the form on this page.

WSMTA HALL OF FAME NOMINATION FORM CRITERIA

Nominee has served as an active member of WSMTA and satisfied three or more of the following conditions:

1. has served as an active member of WSMTA for a period of no less than ten (10) years.
2. has demonstrated consistent excellence in the teaching of music or in music education.
3. has brought about substantial improvements in the educational process.
4. has contributed significantly to the betterment of music and/or the music education profession through exemplary service or acts.
5. has demonstrated the highest ideals of professional integrity through their time of service (active members, retired, post-humorously)

Nominee's name _____ Chapter _____

Address _____

Phone () _____ Email _____

Teaching field(s) _____

The committee needs substantial accompanying materials on separate pages, detailing the complete personal/biographical information about the nominee. Examples: letters from former students, family, or colleagues who have been inspired by the nominee, and/or articles about awards or accomplishments. This information should be submitted by a chapter or colleague without the knowledge of the nominee.

Please return the completed form to WSMTA Hall of Fame Chair:

Mary Ellen Cavelti, NCTM
11122 State Rd 162 E
Puyallup, WA 98374
Molly60music@comcast.net

Deadline for 2015-2016 nominees is January 9th, 2016

WSMTA Adjudication Fee Subsidy Application Form

The WSMTA board of directors has set aside \$500 to establish a new set of special scholarships. These grants are to enable teachers to enter low-income, deserving students in WSMTA adjudications. Applications are made by the teacher on behalf of the student(s). Teachers are asked to limit their applications, to students with real financial need (max. of two students per teacher). WSMTA adjudication subsidy grants will be awarded on a first-come first-served basis. (This program is aimed at students of teachers who do not participate in Musiclink. Musiclink students should continue to apply in the usual way.)

**Please mail this form no later than Feb. 1st to:
Peter Mack, 1906 26th Ave East, Seattle, WA 98112**

TEACHER NAME: _____ **CHAPTER** _____

TEACHER EMAIL: _____

TEACHER TELEPHONE NUMBER : (____) _____

STUDENT NO. 1 : _____

INSTRUMENT _____ **ADJUDICATION LEVEL** _____

ADJUDICATION FEE (see adjudications booklet) \$ _____

STUDENT NO. 2 : _____

INSTRUMENT _____ **ADJUDICATION LEVEL** _____

ADJUDICATION FEE (see adjudications booklet) \$ _____

A D V E R T I S E M E N T S



If you would like to place an ad in The CLARION, go to the WSMTA website "wsmta.org" and click on "Clarion Advertising" under "About WSMTA", then "purchase online".



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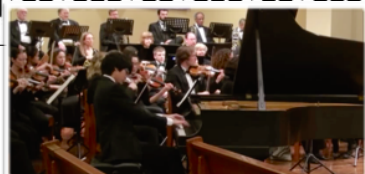


2016 Chopin Festival NW

Applications now available online: www.chopinnw.org

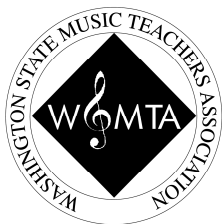
ONLINE REGISTRATION PERIOD: OCTOBER 1, 2015 to DECEMBER 31, 2015.

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.**
- **UP TO 3 GOLD MEDALISTS SELECTED IN EACH AGE DIVISION. UP TO 20% OF ALL ENTRANTS AWARDED SILVER MEDALS. CASH PRIZES AND PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES AWARDED.**
- **Questions? Please contact Allan Park at 425-623-3000 or allanpark@me.com**



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DATES 'N DEADLINES

Jan. 1: Deadline for submitting articles for the Feb. CLARION.

Jan. 10: Dues deadline for new members for Adjudications participation.

Jan. 16, 17, 18: MTNA NW Division Competition, Missoula, MT.

Jan. 27: WSMTA Education Board Meeting, SeaTac.

Jan. 28: WSMTA Board of Directors Meeting, SeaTac.

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

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- ◆ **BRAVO:** Tribute to Judy Price who is retiring & welcome new Executive Manager (Pages 1, 3 & 4)
- ◆ **State Conference 2016:** Walla Walla not just Looney Tunes (Pages 1 & 6)
- ◆ **BRAVO continued:** MTNA Composition Competition Winners, MTNA Performance Competition Winners, & OAC Competition Winners (Pages 4 & 5)
- ◆ **Hall of Fame Nominations** (Pages 7 & 9)
- ◆ **Adjudication Subsidy Grants** (Pages 6, 7 & 10)