

President's Corner



The long dark nights and short days of winter, are giving way to the hope of the longer days and shorter nights of summer. ☺ This probably sounds crazy, but guess whose white outdoor lights still brighten the walk-

way to the studio? You're right, mine do! Valentine Day will be the turning point for me. At that time I usually feel we've made it through the darkest days with some extra light, and the outdoor Christmas lights can go, much to my husband's delight.

Speaking of brightening the darkness, we can still be a part of extending *heart and light* in the form of financial help to those on the east coast affected by Hurricane Sandy. Aside from other avenues for immediate assistance, MTNA has contributed \$25,000.00 of assistance for independent music teachers to re-establish some of what has been lost. You can still contribute if you didn't have a chance in December, by donating online at MTNAfoundation.org/contribute/donation-form and specify Superstorm Sandy in the special instructions box at the bottom of the page. Or you can send a check to the MTNA Foundation and specify "Superstorm Sandy". It's a wonderful way to share from your *heart*.



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BRAVO!

Washington State MTNA Northwest Division Composition Competition & Performance Competition Winners

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Phyllis Pieffer to Receive MTNA Distinguished Service Award at MTNA Conference

ARTICLE ON PAGE 4



Phyllis Pieffer

Debra Florian for MTNA Vice President!!!

ARTICLE ON PAGE 5



Debra Florian

Coming Events

Conference 2013 Wenatchee!



Stephen Beus

Featuring Stephen Beus!

"Mesmerizing... explosive... intelligent ... he belongs on the world stage." In such a manner did the Salt Lake Tribune describe our 2013 WSMTA Conference Guest Artist, Stephen Beus. Within the next four months this Washington born and bred pianist won first prize in the 2006 Gina Bachauer International Piano Competition, first place in the Vendome Prize International Competition (Lisbon) and was awarded the Max I. Allen Fellowship of the American Pianists Association (Indianapolis). As a result of winning the Juilliard School Concerto Competition, Mr. Beus made his Carnegie Hall debut with the Juilliard Orchestra and James De Preist, playing Prokofiev Concerto No. 3.

Since then he truly has been catapulted to the world stage. He has performed as guest soloist with the Gulbenkian Symphony (Lisbon), Oxford Philomusica, the Tivoli Symphony (Copenhagen), the Northwest Sinfonietta (Seattle), the Royal Philharmonic of Morocco (Casablanca), the Vaasa Symphony Orchestra (Finland) as well as with the Hamburg, Indianapolis, Nashville, Santa Fe, Utah, Fort Worth, Tucson, Yakima, Bellevue, Salt Lake,

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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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- Please submit articles to the Editor no later than the 1st day of the month preceding the publication date.

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

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

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

**DO NOT SUBMIT ARTICLES
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Changiz n' Kawrekshuns

Adjudicator Marilyn Brossard's email
address has changed again, to:
marilynbrossard@gmail.com

Membership

Welcome New Members!

Bellingham Chapter
Andrew Bybee

Seattle Chapter
Kelley Wang

South King County Chapter
Kazu Hedfors

Collegiate
John Crigler
Andrea Hamel
Margaret Francik
Jessica Van Dyken
Joshua Lindberg

Chapter of the Year Program

Just a reminder of the March 1st entry
deadline for WSMTA's Chapter of the

Year: 2013. The entry form and requirements were included in the Presidents Packet, distributed at the Fall Leadership Seminar.

The Grays Harbor Chapter was the 2012 recipient of this award and has sent their entry for the MTNA Local Association Award. The winner is announced at the MTNA Conference in March.

Three members from various areas of the State will be selecting the winning entry. The announcement and presentation of the \$300.00 award will be made at our June conference.

Please send your entry to me at P.O. Box 430, Granger, WA 98932.

*Marilyn Linde, WSCTM
Chapter of the Year Chair*

President's Corner

(Continued from Page 1)



*Hearts and flowers to Debra Florian, NCTM, former WSMTA President, and NW Division Director who is a candidate for MTNA Vice President! Debra has a heart for serving MTNA and as we know, is so very capable. She served WSMTA so well in every way establishing the Outstanding Artists Competition and our excellent Musicianship Examination program both having continued as extremely successful events. Encourage those you know to vote, and let's have a great vote tally from Washington State and the NW Division. Your August/September 2012 AMT has all the information on all the candidates for president elect, vice president and secretary/treasurer. Or go online to mtna.org, click on [About MTNA](#), then [Elections](#). For certain let's **VOTE, VOTE, and VOTE!***

A favorite part of this presidency is visiting the chapters across the state, large and small, meeting so many of you, hearing your real life stories, your chapter successes and plans. A recent chapter visit revealed a wonderful story as we were discussing the ways WSMTA, through student study grants and Music Link can be helpful when you scholarship a student with limited resources. I later asked if I could share her experience in the Clarion, and she agreed and wrote it down. I think you'll be blessed and encouraged as I was.

"Josh is the name of the student who I started teaching when he was eight years

old. His mother wanted him to take violin also, so he studied some violin. He really disliked the violin, so he practiced the pia-no very faithfully. Since the family really couldn't afford piano lessons, I took him as a "scholarship" student. I have practiced doing this throughout my music career, one student at a time. I have always been blessed for this effort.

Josh participated in recitals, church performance, adjudications a couple of times, and loved to share his music. He progressed very well. He moved from Washington when he was in High School. I believe he continued piano lessons for a while in California. But he always played and performed when he could. He even accompanied his church choir at some point during his High School years.

What a surprise it was when he called me to let me know he is attending Pensacola Christian College in Florida, where he is studying music. He has been chosen to accompany one of the Men's Vocal Groups that travels throughout the United States. Now, I look back and I'm so glad that I made the decision to teach Josh those years because he has a love for good music and will always use the piano to bless his world.

When the family moved from Washington, they had a beautiful Grandfather's Clock that they couldn't take with them. They wanted me to have it in repayment for the years I taught Josh. Now, every time the clock chimes, I am reminded of the special blessing I had in teaching a young man who is using his music to bless the next generation. I don't expect scholarship students to repay me later, because I am always blessed in many ways when I take a student on scholarship.

I know that a lot of teachers can't do what I do. My husband is still employed full time. He and I have this understanding that I will always have a student who couldn't otherwise have the opportunity to have music lessons in his/her life. We have been blessed over and over for doing this."

Hearts and flowers to all of you who have students you scholarship! Some are registered with MusicLink, others you simply scholarship. You are creating a special joy!

*Dianne Johnston, WSCTM
WSMTA President*

**Scholarship Fund Form
on Page 9**

BRAVO!

Washington State MTNA Northwest Division Composition Competition Winners

Music Teachers National Association is pleased to announce the results of the composition competition for Northwest Division.

Elementary:

Winner: Sophia Chen, Student of Sharon Van Valin

Junior:

Representative: Joshua Fan, Student of Sharon Van Valin

Senior:

Winner: Gabriel Soileau, Student of Barbara Miller

Young Artist:

Representative: Mitchell Fund, Student of Julia Swienty

This year, the Northwest judges were:

George Belden
David Crumb
Valerie Roubos

The winning compositions automatically advance to the national competition as national finalists. The results of that competition will be announced by the end of January. National finalists, should you be named the national winner, please be aware of the following:

- All winning compositions must be performed at the National Conference. Only the national first-place winners will have their compositions performed at the National Conference.
- Winners are required to provide musicians for the performance.
- All winners must be present at the performance.
- Performance dates for 2013 are: Elementary and Junior, March 10; Senior, March 11, and Young Artist, March 12. Rehearsals are held one day prior to the performance. The 2013 National Conference will be held in Anaheim, California.
- The winner is responsible for all expenses (such as travel, lodging, meals, and musicians' fees).

- You will need to supply MTNA National Headquarters with a 75-word bio, photo and other information for a press release.
- MTNA recommends that students less than age eighteen (18) be accompanied by an adult. MTNA will exercise all reasonable caution to provide a safe environment for all entrants but cannot guarantee the safety of all entrants.

Congratulations to all of the participants in the competition! We hope that the comments you receive from the judges will be helpful to you and your teacher. Your efforts are to be commended and we hope that you will continue to learn and grow as a composer. Good luck with your musical studies!

(continued next page)

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Washington State MTNA Northwest Division Performance Competition Winners

Congratulations to our Washington students and teachers who have placed at NW Division Competition at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma January 11-13. The winners will represent WSMETA and the NW Division at the national competitions in Anaheim this March 9 - 13.

Junior Piano

Cat.: Student Teacher
Win.: Nathan Lee Sasha Starceovich

Junior Strings

Cat.: Student Teacher
Win.: Ria Honda Margaret Pressley

Junior Woodwinds

Cat.: Student Teacher
Win.: Elise Kim Bonnie Blanchard

Senior Brass

Cat.: Student Teacher
Win.: Andrew Abel Christopher Olka

Senior Piano

Cat.: Student Teacher
Alt.: Andrew Liu Willard Schultz

Senior Piano Duet

Cat.: Student Teacher
Win.: Jonathan & Catherine Kok Peter Mack

Senior Strings

Cat.: Student Teacher
Win.: Amelia Sie Simon James

Senior Voice

Cat.: Student Teacher
Win.: Vanessa Vega Reginald Unterseher

Young Artist Piano

Cat.: Student Teacher
Alt.: Lucy Chang Victoria Bogdash-evskaya/Robert Roux

Young Artist Strings

Cat.: Student Teacher
Alt.: Vanessa Moss Carrie Michel

Young Artist Voice

Cat.: Student Teacher
*Rep: Ruth Lindeken April Duvic

Young Artist Woodwind

Cat.: Student Teacher
Win.: Joseph Bozich Fred Winkler

Chamber Strings

Cat.: Students Teacher
Win.: Oceana String Quartet: Melia Watras, Sonja Myklebust, Rochelle Nguyen, Emily Choi, Romaric Pokorny

Chamber Woodwinds

Cat.: Students Teacher
*Rep: UPS Saxophone Quartet: Fred Winkler, Joseph Bozich, Jamie Rottle, Brady McCowan, Soren Hamm

*Rep = Representative to national, no competition at the division level

Thanks go to Jani Peterson, NCTM for a fabulous job organizing the NW Division Competition and to Stephen Allen, NCTM, Junior Coordinator from Idaho; Christopher Hahn, NCTM from Montana, Senior Coordinator; and Jodell Winter, Young Artist Coordinator from Montana. Our gratitude and appreciation to Pacific Lutheran University, David Robbins, Music Dept Chair, and Oksana Ejokina, Chair of Piano Studies for their assistance and use of their beautiful facilities.

*Dianne Johnston, WSCTM
WSMTA President*

Phyllis Pieffer to Receive MTNA Distinguished Service Award at MTNA Conference

Phyllis Irene Pieffer will be honored with MTNA's Distinguished Service Award at the National Conference in Anaheim in March. This award will be given to Phyllis in recognition of her 40 years of service to MTNA. Rarely do we find someone who has the intelligence, ability, qualifications and will to lead our national, state(s) and local associations and challenge us all to do better. Phyllis has been actively involved in MTNA for over 40 years, having previously held positions as MTNA President and Vice President for Membership Development. While living in Colorado, she served as assistant professor and chair of the music department at Colorado Christian University (CCU) in Lakewood, in addition to maintaining a successful independent music studio. During her years in Colorado she served as Colorado MTA president, certification chair and competitions chair; West Central Division director, and junior high and high school MTNA performance competitions coordinator. She was instrumental in developing the Foothills MTA in Lakewood, Colorado. Phyllis always had a passion for music as a youngster; fortunately, she also had the foresight to realize what types of training it would take to teach, perform and lead in the music world. Phyllis holds degrees in piano performance from the College of Wooster in Wooster, Ohio, and in music theory from the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York. In addition, her training as a registered Parliamentarian enables her to run efficient and productive meetings, whether at the national or local level.

In 1998 Phyllis moved with her husband Ron to Aberdeen, Washington. At an age when most of us would have considered retirement or at least cutting back our teaching schedules, Phyllis contacted WSMETA and the Grays Harbor MTA and introduced herself. She became a WSMETA adjudicator and became active in Grays Harbor MTA.

Grays Harbor College valued Phyllis' piano and theory credentials and she began teaching there as well as in her "to die for" studio in the forest 12 miles up the Wishkah Valley. Soon after she started at Grays Harbor College she was diagnosed with breast cancer. Even during the most challenging times of her treatment she handled her life with dignity and grace.

She rarely missed a day of work, and always made sure deadlines were met and work completed. Always one to make lemonade out of lemons, she trained to help others recovering from cancer. (Last month she hit the runway at the Reach to Recovery benefit fashion show!)

When Phyllis moved to Aberdeen she brought a breath of fresh air into our chapter meetings. Member Erica Hollen says, "Phyllis is a chapter treasure. She overflows with ideas to enrich our chapter." She encouraged us to perform for each other, sharing solos and ensembles in chapter meetings and in community events. We read books together and presented programs for each other. She shared materials and ideas from her extensive storage system.

Chapter member Christine Hill writes, "I have always been impressed with Phyllis' work ethic and sense of fairness. She is a reliable leader and a team player at the same time. She always takes time to listen to opinions of others, but moves business meetings along with a "no non-sense" approach." Looking at the future of Grays Harbor MTA, she encouraged us to move beyond the idea that we were a piano teacher organization and incorporated programs that would benefit voice and other instruments.

Even after finishing her many years on the MTNA board, Phyllis continues to help with MTNA, WSM TA and Grays Harbor MTA challenges. When Christine Hill's daughter was a teenager she made up a song about Phyllis. It goes, "Go find Phyllis...she'll know what to do." By awarding Phyllis Pieffer the Distinguished Service Award, the MTNA Board most certainly agrees!

*Merry Jo Zimmer, NCTM
Grays Harbor Chapter Treasurer*

Debra Florian for MTNA Vice President!!!

With many outstanding achievements to her credit, Debra Florian, NCTM is ready to serve MTNA again. Debbie has contributed in many areas of MTNA/WSMTA as well as her local association. While keeping a large studio of students, she has held many offices in the Kitsap Chapter including president. Following her local chapter presidency, she responded to the request to become the District III VP for two terms. From there she continued to serve WSM TA as Vice President, Presi-

dent Elect and finally President in 2003 - 2005. After her presidency she served on the WSM TA Education Board. Later she was elected NW Division Director and served on the MTNA Board of Directors. Debra has the experience and the makings of an excellent Vice President for MTNA. Not only is she extremely organized, she's delightful to know. Since this is a national election, we want to send 1150 votes from Washington State! That means every member VOTES!

*Dianne Johnston, WSCTM
WSMTA President*

Commissioned Composer of the Year - Reginald Unterseher



Reginald Unterseher

Reginald Unterseher's works for chorus, orchestra, and vocal and instrumental solo are regularly performed around the world, from small town schools and churches to Carnegie Hall. His works are available from Walton Music, Oxford University Press, and from his web site, www.reginaldunterseher.com. His music is regularly featured on programs and reading sessions at music educators' and choral directors' regional and national conferences. Current commissions include Composer-In-Residence duties for the UCC Musician's Association National Conference in 2013, a song cycle for voice and piano on poems taken from Brian Turner's book "Here, Bullet" to be premiered in November, 2013, and a new work for the Mid-Columbia Mastersingers 2013-14 season, where he was Composer-In-Residence in 2011-12.

Mr. Unterseher is Composer-In-Residence at Shalom United Church of Christ in Richland, WA, where he has been music director since 1991. After an early career as a singer and actor, his attention turned back to an early interest in composing, something he had done since childhood. His experience has included leading adult and children's choruses, founding and serving as Chorus Master of Washington

East Opera, singing with Chor Anno, Mid-Columbia Mastersingers, and Male Ensemble Northwest.

An active clinician and adjudicator, he maintains a voice studio in Kennewick, WA. His former students have been state, division and national winners in MTNA and Presidential Scholars in the Arts competitions, and can be found teaching and performing from Washington state to Broadway.

*Steve Nehrenberg, Chair
Commissioned Composer of the Year*

Coming Events

(continued from Page 1)

Conference 2013 Wenatchee!



Featuring Stephen Beus!

Eastern Sierra, Corvallis, Jacksonville, Texarkana and Walla Walla Symphonies. He has also performed with chamber groups across the United States.

Mr. Beus has performed as soloist at Wigmore Hall, the Salle Gaveau and Salle Cortot (Paris), Merkin Hall, the Shanghai Oriental Arts Center, the Central Conservatory (Beijing), Teatro San Carlo (Naples), Carnegie Hall (Weill Recital Hall), the Queluz Palace (Lisbon) and has performed for the Dame Myra Hess and Fazioli Salon series (Chicago), the International Keyboard Institute and Festival (New York City), and has given recitals across the United States as well as in Kazakhstan, Russia, Finland, Denmark, Switzerland, Germany, Georgia, China, France, Italy, Portugal, the Czech Republic, and Morocco.

Last year's season for Stephen Beus included serving as a cultural ambassador for the United States Department of State, giving solo recitals and performing with the Tbilisi National Opera Orchestra throughout Georgia. (Sounds like he might have something in common with

Jody Graves, who will be presenting her most recent experiences as ambassador to the Middle East!)

Information regarding Stephen Beus's educational background and his current teaching position and performance schedule are printed in our December issue of *The Clarion*. We are definitely looking forward to having him as pianist, lecturer, and master class teacher at our June 16-20th conference in Wenatchee.

Look for Master Class applications in future issues, as well as workshop information about presentations on strings, organ, piano, exercise, musical games, composers, styles, and much more!

*Roz Nau, NCTM
2013 Conference Chair*

Education

Young Composers Project

Young Composers Project Entry Deadline is Friday, February 15

The postmarked deadline for entries to this year's Young Composers Project is Friday, Feb. 15. Regular US Mail with First-class postage works fine.

Project Rules, Guidelines and Entry Form are available on our website: www.wsmta.net. Click on the Student Programs link, then under the Young Composers Project description, click on the highlighted phrase that will bring you the needed forms.

Please take time to carefully re-read all instructions. Remember that the only materials that will be returned to teachers and students are the Adjudicator Evaluations and the Certificates for your students. The materials sent for evaluation (compositions and recordings) will not be returned. Thus, you will need to send copies, not originals. It is wise to play through your student's composition to see if the work is readable for the judges.

If you have questions or are unable to access the WSM TA website, please contact me at ks88keys@gmail.com or 206-842-7150, and I will send the information to you via e-mail or US Mail.

*Krista Seely
Young Composers Project Chair*

ADJUDICATIONS

Adjudications Alert

As we head into the busiest time for adjudications, let me give a final word of encouragement to help us all get through the process easier, so that we can focus on the experience and have it be truly meaningful for ourselves and our students.

Remember that the purpose is to provide an educational experience that encourages goal setting, persistence, and creativity. It provides a performance opportunity for students where an objective evaluation of each student's skill and musicianship is made by an impartial, competent adjudicator. And it provides the teacher an opportunity to consult with another professional musician.

For the best experience during adjudications, the most important thing you can do is to **read** through (or re-read!) the adjudications booklet (under teacher forms on website) and BE PREPARED. Your adjudicators will thank you and your students will thank you. If there is a question you have that can't be answered from the booklet, we want to know about it!

Prepare your students well for the experience. Do a run-through. Make sure they understand that they will be asked questions by the adjudicator and that they should be open to trying something new if asked. Are they able to start in different places? In other words...prepare them to be adjudicated! Above all remember that the adjudicator cannot judge circumstances (bad day, nerves, etc.) They can only comment on what happens on that day at that moment in time.

Lastly, please remember to fill out the evaluation form. Your experience is important to us! If you do it right away, you won't forget! Without your feedback, we have no way of knowing what needs to be addressed.

Thank you to all of you who are endeavoring to use the online forms! I know there have been some challenges and glitches, so your efforts are even more appreciated. New teacher registration forms have been uploaded on the website and should be working correctly. We've appreciated being alerted to recent problems so that we could try to fix them. Using the online form really DOES make everyone's job easier.

We are looking forward to simplifying this whole process...so stay tuned!!

*Dorie Guidon
WSMTA Adjudications Chair*

STUDENT TEACHER PROGRAM

When Things Go Awry

I have written several times about the benefits of a high school student teacher program, but it is not a golden road without speed bumps, potholes or detours. No matter how much care and planning you put into a project, whenever people are involved the unexpected can happen.

Problems can arise from several sources: the student teacher, the student or the parents. In this article I will address issues that can arise from the student teacher standpoint only. A fictional case-in-point:

Jane is an 11th grade student teacher. She is a very typical advanced music student: good grades, an active social life, musically talented and responsible (or you would not have taken her on as a student-teacher!). Jane has two first-year students who seem to be doing fine and the parents have not complained. But over the last month or so, Jane has not been practicing her own literature and has made very little if any progress with her musicin other words, her lessons have not been going well. Of course, as we all know the 11th grade in high school is tough with AP classes and pressure to keep those straight A's so she can get into the best university! So as the master teacher, we feel it's OK to give her a little slack and hope that over time Jane will be back to her old self.

Then one day you get an email from a parent of one of Jane's students, who is concerned because Jane has cancelled the last two lessons. The red flag is raised and Jane is contacted to see what's been going on. Jane explains that one week she was sick (although she did not miss any school days that week, but was too ill to teach), and another week she had to cancel because of a last minute choir concert. Now, not only is the red flag raised, but also it's waving frantically. We teachers know that school choir

concerts DON'T get scheduled with only a few days notice, and that if you're not too ill for school, more than likely you can make it through a 40 minute beginning music lesson.

So what to do? Jane is obviously overwhelmed by school and other activities going on in her life (boyfriend? speeding ticket or fender bender? fighting with her parents?), but as the master teacher you not only have a responsibility to Jane and her parents to provide a quality instructional program, but you also have a responsibility to the young beginning students and their parents.

As the mentor teacher it may be best to approach the problem from two angles: first, as Jane's long-time music teacher you want to talk with her on a personal level to see if a bit of "counseling" might help. You can offer help with time management so she can fit in her own practice; suggestions on how to cope with personal problems, yet being able to still focus on providing a great lesson to her beginning students. Possibly explain that the intense focusing required for teaching is actually a great way to de-stress and forget about everything else going on.... even if it's only for a couple of hours! As teachers we have all had those times when we need to offer a bit of non-musical instruction to our students. Compassion, understanding and sensitivity are important for students like Jane who are going through a rough patch.

But secondly, as the master teacher and student teacher program administrator, it is vital that young beginners receive consistent and dependable instruction of a high quality. This is the difficult part of being a master teacher – in essence you are an employer and need to be sure your employees are providing the quality service and value which you have promised to your customers (parents of the young students). Part of every student teacher program should be the "business" of operating a music studio, and in Jane's situation, she needs to be accountable by giving proper notice for cancellations, and offering makeup lessons so the young beginners receive weekly instruction. A conversation with Jane explaining the obligations of being a student teacher would be appropriate, along with touching on the consequences if the problem is not addressed. In this example, Jane may need to step down as a student teacher if she cannot reestablish a consistent lesson

schedule. The parents could be offered choices of another student teacher, or lessons with the master teacher.

Communication is the solution to working out most issues. An open, honest discussion with the student teacher with a follow up email or phone call to the parent would most likely solve the above example. Rarely have I had to involve the parent of the student teacher, but sometimes that can be helpful, especially when trying to gain insight into the student teacher's life. Each situation that arises will be unique, and will require creative, personal solutions. But music teachers are the best when it comes to unique, creative solutions, and that's what provides us with such rewarding careers. A student teacher program can enrich and enhance a studio – even when there are problems to solve!

Janice Smith
WSMTA Student Teacher Chair



2013 is now underway. I hope it is going smoothly for you! This will be a very short column this month as time has gotten away from me and as I write this I am past deadline!

The old year ended on a high note for several WSMTA members. Rose Freeman (Spokane) and Sterling Picard (Tacoma) were both awarded WSMTA Certification grants and are working hard to complete certification projects. Julie Howe, NCTM; Yunbo Cassady, NCTM; and Jennifer Li, NCTM; all from the Eastside chapter, have received certification in piano. Congratulations to all of you! That brings our total of newly certified teachers since July 1, 2012 to 6 and a grand total of 203 certified teachers in WSMTA.

If you have been thinking about pursuing certification, this is a great time to start working on it. Send your application in to MTNA with your check...that will begin the one year deadline clock ticking for completing your projects. Then contact me to apply (a very simple process) for a certification grant. We still have 3 grants available to cover one-half of the application fee expense.

Several of the projects can be completed before sending in your application if you want to work under a little less pres-

sure. Check out the website at <http://www.mtnacertification.org/> for information about the process.

As always, if you have questions don't hesitate to contact me!

Karen Hollenback, NCTM.
WSMTA Certification Chair
425-228-1110
karen.hollenback@gmail.com

Program News

MTNA Foundation News

Congratulations to our MTNA Foundation Fellow nominations, Judith Schoepflin and Michiko Miyamoto. And THANK YOU, WSMTA members, for your generous support of the MTNA Foundation. Both Fellow nominations are now fully funded and will be recognized at the Gala at the MTNA conference at Disneyland in March! Hope to see you there!

The MTNA Foundation supports students, teachers, and many of the MTNA programs and competitions throughout the country. Thanks to the MTNA Foundation, teachers receive grants, students receive assistance to attend competitions, and educational programs are in place to support and further the educational goals of MTNA. In the past twelve years, the MTNA Foundation has awarded more than \$800,000.00 in grants. Thanks to the generosity of WSMTA members, we are a part of that support.

One way that WSMTA members can support the MTNA Foundation is by including the Foundation in their estate planning. This is not a difficult task—there is no minimum amount required, and an attorney is not needed. It is simply a matter of adding MTNA Foundation as a beneficiary to an IRA or insurance policy. Planned giving ensures the future of MTNA and music education in America. Members who arrange to remember the Foundation in their estate planning become members of the Legacy Society and are honored and recognized by MTNA. It's something to consider.

Thank you all, once again, for your generosity to the MTNA Foundation.

Robin Chadwick, NCTM
WSMTA Chair for the MTNA Foundation

**Scholarship Fund Form
on Page 9**



In the past I have had students who went on to college and continued their music education and have become music teachers. Some of them are teachers of piano, some are in school settings as band or choral directors, some are vocal teachers, some are music therapists, and so on. I have had phone calls with questions about teaching some concept, or apologies for not practicing more, not doing their theory, or not understanding the importance about something. ☺ However, I have never mentored a student teacher until this year. I have one student who is teaching one of my students for her Senior project. We have met several times to plan, and I do stay in the room for the lesson. We then do a bit of evaluation of what went well and what to change.

In our very first planning meeting this fall I suggested to her that it is important to teach in a certain order. I printed out a page with the letters E D D E and printed up what each letter stood for. They are E...experience, D...discovery, D...do or demonstrate and E...explain. It seems that much of the time this is done in reverse order, so I cautioned her about that. I have 3 young beginners this year for the first time in years, so it has been a good reminder to me also. I thought I would just share what we did last lesson in introducing bar lines, measures and counting 1,2,3, 4, rather than 1,1,1,1.

We put down a lot of single Smarties candies and asked her to count each one like a quarter note 1,1,1,1 etc. as she has been doing in her Lesson Book. Then a thin Tootsie Roll was inserted between each set of 4 Smarties. We asked her to just count how many in each set. There were 1,2,3,4 each time. When asked what she noticed she said it was easier to count that way. We clapped and counted them in the new way. When asked what kind of notes they would be, she said quarter notes. Next, two Smarties were stacked and she was asked what kind of note that would represent. She knew it was a half note and then she clapped that. Lastly 4 Smarties were stacked and she responded that it was a whole note. Then the "measures" were changed around with different note values in each and she clapped and counted them. We let her arrange them

and we clapped and counted with her. Then we went to a paper with lots of notes and different values, she was able to draw in the bar lines with no problem. We went to the book and read the names of bar line and measures. She was able to find the measures, count and clap any one that we pointed to. She could count how many measures in the song and find all the bar lines. She quickly had the new song counted and clapped

Of course she was given a Tootsie Roll and a package of Smarties as the end of her lesson and went home a happy student who understood a new concept.

We would love to be able to share how you have taught a new concept to one of your students. Just e-mail me with your idea.

*Doreen Slaugh, NCTM
IMTF Chair
pdslaugh@yahoo.com*

District News

District III Conference

Date: April 20, 2013

Venue: 1st Lutheran Church of Tacoma

Time: 9 am until 2:30 pm

Presenters: Dr. Jay and Sandra Mauchley

Theme: Ensemble playing - the first 1-1/2 hours is their workshop. Then duet master classes and their own playing. It will be exciting. Look for more in the March Clarion.

Chapter News

Eastside Chapter Presents Dr. Jody Graves Workshop

Eastside Music Teachers Association presents **Dr. Jody Graves** on Monday, **Feb. 11, 2013**, from 10:00 am – 12:30 pm at Newport Covenant Church, 12800 SE Coal Creek Pkwy, Bellevue, WA 98006. The workshop is titled: **The Heart of Performance – An interactive discussion of the process and guidance into successful and artistic performance.** Fees: students: \$12; Eastside members: \$20; non-Eastside members: \$25. If paying by cash, please have **EXACT DOLLAR AMOUNT** for payment. Registration information: Sammie Marten, smarten@msn.com, 425-443-6945 (cell).

Eastside Chapter Presents

The Mauchley Duo 4 Hands, 2 Grands

This two-Steinway piano duo recital with Jay and Sandy Mauchley will focus on music that showcases Rhythm, Romance, Rhapsody and Ragtime. All ages are sure to be inspired by these crowd-pleasing, high energy Steinway Artists. Sunday, March 3, 2013 at 3 pm, at First Presbyterian Church of Bellevue, 1717 Bellevue Way NE, Bellevue, WA. Thanks to a grant from the EMTA Dorothy Woodcock Fund, this recital is free! For more information, contact: Sheri Skidmore sheri.skidmore@msn.com.

Bulletin Board

More Changes to the 36th Annual Daniel Pollack Piano Master Class!

The 2013 class retains the original class theme of presenting lesser known repertoire. However, due to Mr. Pollack's changing schedule and its impact on space availability at Sherman Clay, the event will now take place on May 30th, 31st and June 1st and 2nd, with private lessons on June 3rd.

Our goal is to send teachers home with great new material to brighten their teaching time. But, as always, all repertoire is accepted. Brochures are now ready. To request more than one, or for further information, contact me.

*Nancy Drake
nandrake@aol.com
425-885-2839*



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WSMTA Scholarship Fund Contribution Form

Please contribute to the 2013 WSMTA Scholarship Fund.
Fill out this form along with your check payable to *WSMTA Scholarship Fund* and mail to:

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The Seattle Int'l Piano Festival presents

Late winter and throughout spring, 2013, the SIPF presents its annual concert series. Now in its fourth season, "**Music from Afar...**" features an array of stunning international musicians beginning this February.



- Sunday, February 17, 2013 at 5 pm. Hear the magnificence of Sara Airoldi, cellist, and Massimo Folliero, the internationally acclaimed piano/cello duo. During a multi-national tour, hear sonatas by Chopin, Debussy, and Prokofiev, as well as Carlo Alfredo Piatti's Notturmo, Op. 20 for cello and piano.
- Sunday, March 3, 2013 at 2 pm. Hear Canadian pianist, Eugene Skovorodnikov, and local pianist, Christopher Bowlby, in a combined concert of solo variations and sonatas by two masters: Haydn and Brahms.



- Saturday, April 27 at 2 pm. Enjoy a remarkable afternoon of duo piano music with Ivona Kaminska and Christopher Bowlby. Among works by Mozart and others, hear Stravinsky's monumental Rite of Spring as the centennial of the work's premier in Paris approaches.

All concerts take place in the auditorium of Frye Art Museum at 704 Terry Avenue in Seattle. Tickets are \$20 for general seating, \$15 for students and seniors, available at the door only. For more information, visit:

<http://www.seattlepianocompetition.org/afar.htm>

Also announcing...

For the fourth year, the Seattle International Piano Festival (SIPF) continues its tradition of educational and competitive events for regional pianists and chamber musicians.

These **Northwest Festival** competitive events were created to provide performing opportunities and educational benefit for those who wish to share their love of the major style periods and to provide performers with constructive feedback from leading performing and teaching masters.

On March 16, 2013, the SIPF presents the annual **Romantic Festival**, allowing participants to showcase this major portion of the repertoire.

On May 4, 2013, the SIPF presents the annual **Contemporary and Impressionistic Festival**, featuring music from the modern area.

Changes to these 2013 festivals include new age groups and, now, new national schools:

Age groups: age 7 and under, age 8 to 10, age 11 to 14, age 15 to 19, adult amateurs, and collegiate/professional (new).

Romantic National Schools: Western European (French, Italian, Spanish, and Great Britain), Scandinavian, Central European (Hungarian, Romanian, Czechoslovakian), Germanic (Swiss, German, Austrian), Poland, Russian (including former Soviet Union countries), the Americas

Contemporary National Schools: Western European (French, Italian, Spanish, and Great Britain), Scandinavian, Central European (Hungarian, Romanian, Czechoslovakian), Germanic (Swiss, German, Austrian), Poland, Russian (including former Soviet Union countries), North American, Central/South American, African/Asian

For complete information, including application deadlines, fees, and rules, visit:

<http://www.seattlepianocompetition.org/nwfestivals.htm>



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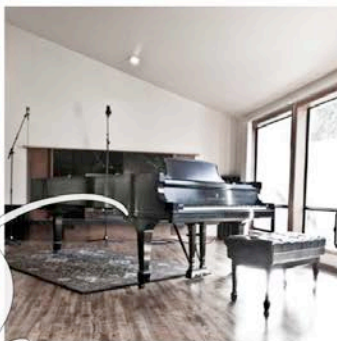
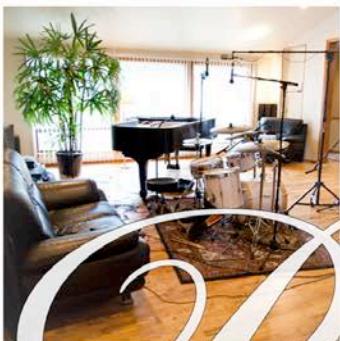


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DATES 'N DEADLINES

Feb. 1-2: Douglas Humpherys at WSU.

Feb. 15: Deadline for Young Composers Project Entries.

March 1: Deadline for Chapter of the Year Entries.

March 9-13: MTNA Conference at Disneyland.

June 16-20: WSMTA Conference at Wenatchee.

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

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