OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE WASHINGTON STATE MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

The CLARION

VOL. LXIV, NO. 2

OCT., 2011

President's Corner



On the sunny side of life... my prayers, relating to an extended summer were answered. In western Washington the first part of September is proving to be the warmest, longest stretch of sunshine that

we've enjoyed all year, making it difficult to attend to the business at hand. It's a challenge when tennis, picnics at the beach, guests from out of town and life in general pull tug at your planning schedule!

However, time and the calendar march on! Schools will have begun, lessons will be underway, chapters will have held their opening meetings (extending invitations to non members too, I hope), I will have visited two chapters, (Gig Harbor and Seattle) and our Leadership Seminar will have passed when you receive this Clarion.

In spite of all this, I hope that many of you have taken on new goals for this fall. I for one have been encouraging and have now invited an independent teacher in our area to attend our September chapter gathering; hopefully she'll come. It's a bit tricky in this economy, but enthusiasm is contagious and the friendship and activities available will tip the scales I'm sure. Investigate the wsmta.net, mtna.org and your chapter web sites so you are knowledgeable about the offerings MTNA, WS-MTA and your local chapters have when you invite non-members. You might even find information you were not aware of during your investigation.

Let's also be making contact with *collegiate chapters* in our districts. We can offer to help provide assistance they may need, *(Continued on Page 3)*

Bravo!

Conference 2011 Awards Hall of Fame Award



L-R: Phyllis Pieffer, Margaret Presley, Selina Chu (for Michiko Miyamoto) & Jane Campbell

Three Hall of Fame Inductees were honored on Sunday, June 26th, 2011 at the WSMTA Conference banquet at the Red Lion Hotel in Pasco. This year we had the privilege of honoring Michiko Miyamoto, Seattle Chapter; Phyllis Pieffer, Grays Harbor Chapter; and Margaret Presley, Spokane Chapter. Mrs. Miyamoto was not present at the banquet, so her former student Selina Chu accepted the award for her. (Continued on page 3)

South King County Receives Chapter of the Year Award

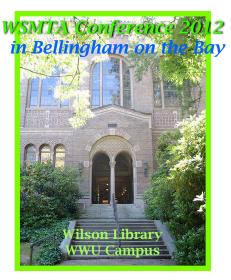


L-R (standing) S. King County Members: Stephanie White, Dianne Nichols, Mary Kaye Owen, Karen Hollenback; (seated) Margee Webster, Patti Robertson, Cindy McKay, Bill McKay; Jani Peterson at the podium.

The WSMTA 2011 Chapter of the Year award was presented to the South King County Chapter at the conference opening banquet. Several surprised and excited members from the chapter were in attendance to accept the award.

(Continued on Page 3)

Coming Events



Mark your calendars now for the 2012 WSMTA Conference in beautiful Bellingham, June 18-22. The Lynden Chapter is delighted to host members at the campus of Western Washington University. WS-MTA members will be inspired by the music of guest artist Angela Cheng, who is, as one reviewer put it "...nothing short of magic...a pianist one could listen to for hours..." While enjoying all that the 2012 WSMTA Conference has to offer, why not treat yourself to the Historic Fairhaven District, close to WWU, known for its Victorian red brick architecture, charming shops and restaurants or go for a walk along Boulevard Park with great views of Bellingham Bay and a section of boardwalk over the water. Two websites of interest for the upcoming conference are Angela Cheng's:

www.pianistangelacheng.com

and for more information about Bellingham:

www.bellingham.org

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Annual Officers, Chairs & Chapter Presidents Listings Foldout in this issue

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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Executive Manager

Judith Price, NCTM 4904 Hilton Rd. NE Olympia, WA 98516 360-459-4338 WSMTAoffice@comcast.net

WSMTA Website

www.wsmta.net

IMPORTANT NOTICE: The USPS does not forward copies of The CLARION. PLEASE notify the WSMTA Executive Office if your address changes.

Clarion Editor

Gary Alan Hind 20038 Lysir Ct. NE Poulsbo, WA 98370 360-697-2591 basinroad@comcast.net

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.

DO NOT SUBMIT ARTICLES EMBEDED WITH HYPERLINKS.

WSMTA Board of Directors

President: Dianne Johnston, WSCTM

P.O. Box 655

Kingston, WA 98346 Phone: 360-930-0168 e-mail: dianne@silverlink.net

President Elect: Laurie Eash, NCTM

S 1924 Post

Spokane, WA 99203 Phone: 509-747-6964 e-mail: laurie52@aol.com Immediate Past President:

Jani Peterson, NCTM 2601 Mix Road Moscow, ID 83843 Phone: 208-883-3991 e-mail: jani@turbonet.com

Vice President: Bill McKay, NCTM

1811 Birch Ave.

Richland, WA 99352-2451 Phone: 509-946-3312

e-mail: Bill.mckay@columbiabasin.edu

Executive Manager:

Judith Price, NCTM (see left col.)

Treasurer: Patti Robertson, NCTM

209 E Canyon Drive

Kennewick, WA 99337-5824 Phone: 509-586-2219

e-mail: pattiandken@charter.net
District I VP: Nancy Heyer, NCTM

2517 Cornwall Ave.
Bellingham, WA 98225
Phone: 360-671-7497
e-mail: theheyers@msn.com

District II VP: Yunbo Cassidy 6130 147th Pl. SE

Bellevue, WA 98006 Phone: 425-644-6110

e-mail: conanima63@gmail.com

Dist. III VP: Mary Ellen Cavelti, NCTM 11122 State Rd. 162nd E

Puyallup, WA 98374 Phone: 253-845-2358

e-mail: Molly60music@comcast.net
District IV VP: Cinda Redman, NCTM

15716 SE 34th Circle Vancouver, WA 98683 Phone: 360-256-8888

e-mail: cindapiano@comcast.net

District V VP: Roz Nau, NCTM

P.O. Box 728

Tonasket, WA 98855 Phone: 509-486-4673 e-mail: roznau@hotmail.com

District VI VP: Laura Curtis

155 Thorne

Walla Walla, WA 99362 Phone: 509-529-9563

e-mail: curtislj@whitman.edu

District VII VP: Stephanie Hill, NCTM 1132 Ripon Ave.

Lewiston, ID 83501 Phone: 208-746-1122 e-mail: smhill@clearwire.net

Adjudications Chair: Janice Smith 15604 N Sycamore

Mead, WA 99021-9376 Phone: 509-467-8147

e-mail: jsmithpiano@gmail.com

Clarion Editor: Gary Alan Hind (see col. 1) **Ed. Board Chair:** MargeeWebster, NCTM

(see below)

WSMTA Education Board

Ed. Board Chair: Margee Webster, NCTM

2246 S Rockwood Blvd. Spokane, WA 99203 Phone: 509-534-9678

e-mail: johnmargee@comcast.net

Ed. Board Member: Peter Mack, NCTM 1906 26th Ave.

Seattle, WA 98112 Phone: 206-328-7294

e-mail: mackpeter@earthlink.net

Ed. Board Member: Jani Peterson, NCTM
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Ed. Board Member: Robin Chadwick, NCTM

239 Alderwood Dr. Chehalis, WA 98532 Phone: 360-345-6777 robin@localaccess.com

Ed. Board Member: Mary Kaye Owen, NCTM

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Welcome New Members!

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Candace Blankenbaker
Jim Rourk

Seattle Chapter Laurel Miller-Klein

South King CountyJeeyoung Kim

Spokane Chapter

Jodi DeMille Michal Rosenberger

Sunn Valley Carmen Smith

Whatcom County
Naomi Kato

Student Anna Prykhodko

WSMTA Conference 2012 June 18-22

President's Corner

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without making huge expectations or getting in their way. Possibly sending your chapter newsletters to their president or inviting them to a district conference, or special workshop would start communications. Let's support the collegiate chapters and build relations. The faculty advisor (who is a WSMTA member) may be able to use some assistance as well from your chapter. Let's make an initial offer and be ready to serve them. In case you don't know where those collegiate chapters are, the following are five registered collegiate chapters that I am aware of:

WWU, Bellingham: Hannah Geneser, President; Jeffrey Gilliam NCTM, Advisor

WSU, Pullman: Julianne Zahl, President; Michelle Mielke NCTM, Advisor

Whitworth U, Spokane: Rose Halcomb, President; Judith Schoepflin NCTM, Advisor

Seattle Pacific U, Seattle: Myrna Capp NCTM, Advisor

EWU, Cheney: Mak Kastelic, President; Margee Webster NCTM, Advisor

You may also want to introduce WS-MTA/MTNA to student teachers you have in your studio, or high school students who might entertain the idea of becoming student members (available only through WSMTA, not MTNA). Perhaps you can share a Clarion or your AMT magazine that might have interesting articles for them. Let's be thinking of numerous ways to extend and reach a new potential member.

A word of encouragement to member teachers certified in the past by WSMTA; you will be seeing WSCTM after your names in WSMTA lists and references. The WSCTM indicates a member was certified by WSMTA under a certification program similar to MTNA before MTNA developed the extensive national certification program. You can thank Jani Peterson for recommending, and your Board of Directors for approving the use of those initials at the June 2011 board meeting. I'm personally very pleased, because I was certified, under the WSMTA program and I was disap-pointed when we discontinued validating our state program. Thank you Jani and the BOD!

Continue putting \$ aside for attending the National Conference in New York

in March and our State Conference in Bellingham in June with our prestigious guest, Angela Cheng!

I leave you with this thought, "To Teach is to Change a Life Forever" and we want to accomplish this in the most positive way possible! Thank you all for your contributions to WSMTA, making it an organization all music teachers would desire to belong to!

Dianne Johnston, WSCTM WSMTA President

Bravo!

(Continued from Page 1)

Conference 2011 Awards

(Continued from Page 1)

Hall of Fame Awards

(Continued from Page 1)

Ellen Pickell, of Grays Harbor Chapter, presented the remarks of all the accomplishments of Phyllis Pieffer. Margaret Presley was well represented by her family and Spokane Chapter colleagues as we all joined in recognizing all she has accomplished in her career. These three each in their own way have genuinely demonstrated their joy and passion for music and have spent their lives being involved in sharing that passion with those in their communities.

Please look for the Hall of Fame nomination form on the wsmta website and in the November issue of the CLARION. Since it's initiation in 2002 to date there have been 51 Hall of Fame Honorees. Each year the Hall of Fame Committee can select three individuals to represent this honor. Who do you know that deserves to be recognized for their accomplishments for the betterment of music in our state, country, and around the world?

Jane Campbell, NCTM WSMTA Hall of Fame Chair

Chapter of the Year Award

(Continued from Page 1)

The award is presented yearly to a local WSMTA association. The application material--which includes includes information on the local chapter's activities and programs over the past year and a half, including involvement in local, state and national events, and community outreach--is submitted by local chapters and then evaluated for the award. More information about the process for 2012 Chap-

ter of the Year Award is available from chairperson Marilyn Linde, (jmlinde@embarqmail.com) or Judy Price (WSMTA office@comcast.net).

Coming Events

WSMTA Outstanding Artist Competition - Nov. 4-6

Outstanding Artist Competition is almost upon us. This year the competition will be at Central Washington University in Ellensburg, a great middle point to our state. It is easy to find, and has plenty of parking and amenities. There should be plenty of practice rooms and two designated warm up rooms (specific to OAC, so don't panic!) and a lovely recital hall where the competition will be held. And the best part? The MTNA competition is in the concert hall next door! Teachers will not have to do the drive, the walk, or pull their hair out trying to get to two places at once! You can come hear your student, AND attend a full 3 days of free, amazing music by instrumentalists and singers. Who knows, maybe this year we will all hear the winners of both events and be able to cheer our own MTNA winners on to the Northwest Division Competition rather than just reading about them! Remember, the competition is open to the public and there is no charge to listen.

If you haven't participated in a competition, this is the place to find out how it all works! Anyone interested in volunteering to help, please email me at <code>swienty@clearwire.net</code>. We will need timers, door monitors and registration table people to greet and direct students and parents as to where to go (it is a big building!).

If you would like to help out by providing food for the adjudicators or volunteers, that would be great. Last year we were able to supply wonderful freshly prepared lunches, as the facility had a big kitchen. We will not be able to do this again this year. If you could make homemade cookies, bring fresh fruit, or help organize a lunch, the judges would be so appreciative.

Our judges will be staying at The Hampton Hotel so please avoid booking rooms there. The Best Western Lincoln Suites have made a block of rooms available at a reduced rate. There will be more in the letter that goes to each student once they have registered.

A big thanks to John Webster, our webmaster who created the new online registration system.

I look forward to hearing all the wonderful students and getting to talk to each of you wonderful teachers who have invested so much time and effort into your students!!!

Sincerely,

Julie Swienty, OAC Chair

WSMTA/MTNA Performance Competitions: Nov. 4, 5 & 6 Central Washington University Ellensburg, WA

The 2011 WSMTA/MTNA performance competitions will be here soon. The deadline for student entries has passed and thanks to the dedicated help of all involved in organizing the event, we are ready to host another successful competition. Many congratulations go out to all of the student and teachers who have entered this year. A quick reminder to all of the teachers: If you have not yet sent in your Teacher Entry Fees, please do so as soon as possible. Mail them to Bill McKay, 1811 Birch Ave., Richland, WA 99354.

As Julie has mentioned in her article for the OAC competition, we can always use help at the competition site. If you are interested in volunteering some of your time, please give me a call or send me an e-mail. (509) 547-0511, ext. 2332 or bill.mckay@columbiabasin.edu.

I look forward to seeing you all at CWU in November.

Sincerely,

Bill McKay, NCTM WSMTA Vice President MTNA Performance Competition Coordinator



(Continued from Page 1)

October 31 is the deadline to submit proposals for potential presenters at our State Conference. The proposal form was included in the September issue of the Clarion. Thank you for your input and suggestions.

Karen Scholten & Meg Krieg, NCTM 2012 Conference Co-Chairs

Education

FOR POINT FOR

To Be Heard Above the Din

Recently, I had a discussion with several music teachers regarding audience noise. We were dismayed by the behavior of audiences at recent performances that we had attended. The noisy and inattentive audience members were not only disrespectful and distracting to the performers--they disturbed the other listeners who wished to enjoy the music.

In our society, we, as musicians and teachers, can no longer assume that audiences know how to behave at classical music concerts. At rock concerts and sporting events it is not expected that the audience will sit quietly and give the performers their undivided attention. Therefore eating and drinking, cheering, singing along, coming and going at will, talking, and texting are the norm. It is no wonder, then, that audiences who have never attended classical music concerts would carry these behaviors with them when they attend our performances or the performances of our students.

We, as music teachers, have a tremendous opportunity to change this situation by teaching concert etiquette as an integral part of our curriculum. Here are some ideas that have been successful with other music teachers.

- (1) Teach students that they are expected to sit quietly and give their full attention to the performer. Practice these expectations during performance classes and studio recitals. Observe the students. If a student is disruptive during a performance, follow up with the student and his/her parent, making it clear that proper audience etiquette is a requirement of your studio.
- (2) Whenever you send written notification of upcoming performances,

- include a reminder of expected audience etiquette.
- (3) Include brief written instructions for audience behavior on printed recital programs. Note a location where parents of young children can go if the child becomes noisy or unruly.
- (4) At the beginning of the performance, verbally give instructions to the audience. If the audience becomes disruptive, stop the performance and remind the audience that the performers have worked hard and deserve the audience's full attention. This may need to be done often. After a few recitals where the audience is frequently educated, they will get the idea. The beauty of this is that once the expectations have been set for your studio, new students and families will be educated by the demonstrated behavior of your very polite studio.

Some teachers may be concerned that they will offend parents if they demand proper concert etiquette. I have found the contrary to be true. The majority of parents are more offended if they have come to hear their child perform, only to be disrupted by the rude behavior of others.

Perhaps the most important reason to demand good concert etiquette is because the performers work hard to give the gift of music to the audience. Demanding an audience's full attention shows that we have respect for our art, for our students, and for ourselves.

Joann Richardson, NCTM WSMTA Organ Chair Email: naggy@richardsonlaw.biz

ERTIFICATION CORNER

Dear (music teacher—put your name here),

Hello again! How are you? I hope today is a great day for you!

I decided to write an old fashioned letter today...I love getting them so I can go back and savor them. Everything seems like it is so fast paced these days—email, voicemail, tweets, well you get the idea. My students think everything should happen instantly. Maybe it's just my advancing age, but lingering over a "tricky spot"

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PO Box 655 360-930-0168

dianne@silverlink.net Kingston, WA 98346

S 1924 Post 509-747-6964 Spokane, WA 99203 Laurie52@aol.com

2601 Mix Rd. 208-883-3991 Moscow, ID 83843 jani@turbonet.com

1811 Birch Ave 509-946-3312

Richland, WA 99352-2451 Bill.mckay@columbiabasin.edu

4904 Hilton Rd. NE 360-459-4338

Olympia, WA 98516 WSMTAoffice@comcast.net

209 E Canyon Dr. 509-586-2219

Kennewick, WA 99337 pattiandken@charter.net

2517 Cornwall Ave. 360-671-7497 Bellingham, WA 98225 theheyers@msn.com

6130 147th PI SE 425-644-6110

Bellevue, WA 98006 conanima63@gmail.com

11122 State Rd. 162nd E 253-845-2358

Puyallup, WA 98374 Molly60music@comcast.net

15716 SE 34th Circle 360-256-8888

Vancouver, WA 98683 cindapiano@comcast.net

PO Box 728 509-486-4673

Tonasket, WA 98855 roznau@hotmail.com

155 Thorne 509-529-9563

Walla Walla, WA 99362 curtislj@whitman.edu

1132 Ripon Ave. 208-746-1122 Lewiston, ID 83501 smhill@clearwire.net

15604 N Sycamore 509-467-8147

Mead, WA 99021 jsmithpiano@gmail.com

360-697-2951 20038 Lysir Ct. NE

Poulsbo, WA 98370 basinroad@comcast.net

2246 S Rockwood Blvd. 509-534-9678

Spokane, WA 99203 johnmargee@comcast.net

EDUCATION BOARD

2246 S Rockwood Blvd. 509-534-9678

Spokane, WA 99203 johnmargee@comcast.net

1906 26th Ave. E 206-328-7294

Seattle, WA 98112 mackpeter@earthlink.net

2601 Mix Rd. 208-883-3991 Moscow, ID 83843 jani@turbonet.com

360-345-6777 239 Alderwood Dr.

Chehalis, WA 98532 robin@localaccess.com

11445 SE 185th Pl. 425-228-8721 Renton, WA 98055 mary.k.owen@att.net

PO Box 655 360-930-0168

Kingston, WA 98346 dianne@silverlink.net

15604 N Sycamore 509-467-8147

Mead, WA 99021 jsmithpiano@gmail.com

4904 Hilton Rd. NE 360-459-4338

> Olympia, WA 98516 WSMTAoffice@comcast.net

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15520 Mill Creek Blvd. 1-102 Arts Awareness & Advocacy: Yelena Balabanova

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Granger, WA 98932 2816 Harvard Ave. E

PO Box 430

Seattle, WA 98102

8508 Van Buren Rd. Everson, WA 98247

601 1st St Richland, WA 99354

11445 Se 185th Pl. Renton, WA 98055

4411 80th Ave. NW Gig Harbor, WA 98335

209 E Canyon Dr. Kennewick, WA 99337

7414 92nd Pl. SE Mercer Island, WA 98040

Lake Stevens, WA 98258 21232 97th Pl. S Kent, WA 98031

10610 88th St. NE

1516 Goethals Richland, WA 99354

1048 Oregon St. Moses Lake WA 98837

4904 Hilton Rd. NE Olympia, WA 98516

S 1924 Post Spokane, WA 99203 1975 Stick Point Ln.

Oak Harbor, WA 98277 239 Alderwood Dr. Chehalis WA 98532

11445 Se 185th Pl. Renton, WA 98055

16219 132nd Pl. SE Renton, WA 98058

14711 SE 29th St. Vancouver, WA 98683

509-854-2630

jmlinde@embarqmail.com

206-522-4949 sarahbas@seattleu.edu

360-966-4895

Karen_Scholten@msn.com 360-988-2969

gemnoj@hotmail.com

425-228-8721 jani@turbonet.com

253-265-2019 kdstrick@centurytel.net

509-586-2219 pattiandken@charter.net

206-232-0117

cchungate@comcast.net

360-651-2383 jcpiano@comcast.net

253-8874-0562 emandjd@gmail.com

509-943-1758 onnelle@aol.com

509-765-9596 pdslaugh@yahoo.com

360-459-4338 WSMTAoffice@comcast.net

509-747-6964 Laurie52@aol.com

360-675-5221 gailjudy2@gmail.com

360-345-6777 robin@localaccess.com

425-228-8721 jani@turbonet.com

425-227-0339 julevamar@aol.com

360-256-8888

cindapiano@comcast.net

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High School Credit: WSMTA Office

Music Link: Mary Foster Grant, NCTM 15604 N Sycamore Mead, WA 99021

1906 26th Ave. E

Seattle, WA 98112 15009 SE 171 St. Renton, WA 98058

EWU Music Dept. - 119 Cheney, WA 99004

245 NW Harrison St.

Pullman, WA 99163

4904 Hilton Rd. NE

Olympia, WA 98516

509-467-8147

206-328-7294

425-228-1110

jsmithpiano@gmail.com

nackpeter@earthlink.net

karen.hollenback@gmail.com

509-359-6119 jgraves@ewu.edu

509-332-2836

mielke@mail.wsu.edu

360-459-4338

WSMTAoffice@comcast.net

7385 Dolphin Dr. NE 206-842-3280 Bainbridge Island, WA 98110 Bamfam2@msn.com

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MTNA Competitions: Bill McKay, NCTM

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7416 Heather Ave. SE Snoqualmie WA 98065

4917 S Bellaire Veradale, WA 99037

6130 147th Pl. SE Bellevue, WA 98006

155 Thorne

Walla Walla, WA 99362 8508 Van Buren Rd. Everson, WA 98247

29118 152nd Ave. SE Kent, WA 98402 410 12th St. SE Auburn, WA 98022

4166 NW Hosman Circle Silverdale, WA 98383

Seattle, WA 98119 248 N Garden Terrace

903 W Fulton

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2213 S Beaumont Dr Moses Lake, WA 98837

PO Box 1572 Moses lake, WA 98837

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2390 Squalicum Mountain Rd. Bellingham, WA 98226 671 N Lake Samish Dr. Bellingham, WA 98226

CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

503 Rhododendron Dr. Vancouver, WA 98661

2912 24th St. Clarkston, WA 99403

2315 Jennifer Pl. Longview, WA 98632

522 128th Ave SE Bellevue, WA 98005-3619

4622 180th Pl. SW Lynnwood, WA 98037

1621 Kimberly Ave Enumclaw, WA 98022 509-946-3312

Bill.mckay@columbiabasin.edu

509-396-5414

bobpajer@pianosolosseattle.net

509-868-0005

theacademyofpiano@comcast.net

425-744-6110

conanima63@gmail.com

509-529-9563 curtisljwhitman.edu

360-966-4895

Karen Scholten@msn.com

253-639-0558 swienty@clearwire.net

206-412-8996 jeekwong@aol.com

360-692-7628 naggy@richardsonlaw.biz

206-283-0129 mcapp@spu.edu

360-920-7820

grant.donnellan@wwu.edu

509-765-6585 Dwest6@gcpower.net

509-7651199 mcmunter@nctv.com

253-529-4455

j.s.glover@comcast.net

360-459-4338 WSMTAoffice@comcast.net

425-377-0623

iris_ingram@yahoo.com

360-681-0232 drsinn@nikola.com

206-842-7150 Ks88keys@gmail.com

360-647-0756 Ron.barbara@msn.com 360-671-4161 earlemusic@gmail.com

360-694-0187

Robertsfm6@gmail.com

509-758-1424 nyla@harvestchristian.org

206-577-1366 kcpiano@comcast.net

425-451-4031 jwhpiano@comcast.net

425-275-3314

Ariel4thou@aol.com

360-825-2173 Iktaylor333@comcast.net

11639 Ollala Valley Rd SE Gig Harbor: 253-255-6258 Ollala, WA 98359 Bonnie Hampton olallapiano@gmail.com **Grays Harbor:** 4852 Wishkah Rd 360-537-6363 Phyllis Pieffer, NCTM Aberdeen, WA 98520 pianofil@comcast.net **Kitsap County:** 20892 Kaster Rd 360-779-5776 Patti Ray, NCTM Poulsbo, WA 98370 onahappynote@comcast.net Lake Washington: 25446 SE 42nd St 425-391-5599 Selina Chu, NCTM Issaquah, WA 98029 SelinaChu@gmail.com 360-740-8022 Lewis County: 630 NW Ohio Ave Karen Monroe Chehalis, WA 98532 monroe@localaccess.com 229 Creekview Crest 360-354-4262 Lvnden: Lynden, WA 98264 Jánice Brink Jbrink1122@comcast.net Mason County: 1170 SE Cole Rd 360-426-2102 Laura Wheeler Shelton, WA 98584 plpwheeler@hotmail.com Moses Lake-Central Basin: 1048 W Oregon 509-765-9596 Moses Lake WA 98837 Doreen Slaugh, NCTM pdslaugh@yahoo.com **Mount Rainier:** 728 2nd St NW 253-848-2985 Merilyn Jacobson, NCTM Puyallup, WA 98371 Drj6464@comcast.net Okanogan County: 312 CanyonCourt Rd 509-422-4660 Kathleen Christiansen Omak, WA 98852 Cc312km@msn.com Olympia: 4675 Bush Mountain Dr SW 360-943-9800 Sue_b_d@hotmail.com Sue Dick Tumwater, WA 98512 Olympic Peninsula: 1731 E 5th 360-417-4496 Kristin Quigley Brye Port Angeles, WA 98343 KQBrye@olyben.com Pullman: 1835 NW Turner Dr 509-338-9675 Pullman, WA 99163 Karen Savage, NCTM khsavage@wsu.edu **Puyallup Valley:** 5424 175th Ave Ct E 253-891-1299 Donna Olson Lake Tapps, WA 98391 olssonm@earthlink.net 8532 Midvale Ave N 206-228-8625 Seattle: Jeffrey Pettijohn Seattle, WA 98103 Pettijohn88@msn.com Skagit Valley: 21396 Egret Pl. 360-445-2806 Barbara Van Vliet Mt. Vernon, WA 98274 i.vliet@mac.com Susan Suttles 17713 Sahale Dr. 360-416-4942 Mt. Vernon, WA 98274 susansuttles@verizon.net Snohomish County: 1829 Lake Ave 360-344-6987 Maria Sier, NCTM Snohomish, WA 98290-1334 pyeanno@juno.com South King County: 11445 SE 185th Pl. 425-228-8721 Mary Kay Owen, NCTM Renton, WA 98055 mary.k.owen@att.net Spokane: 2429 N Normandie 509-326-6312 Carolyn Stuart, NCTM Spokane, WA 99205 Stu.jason@gmail.com 509-788-0637 495 S Nunn Sunn Valley: Prosser, WA 98950 Rebecca Cook Rmcstudio1@juno.com Tacoma: 8617 Eastside Dr NE 253-952-8859 Sharon Vogel Tacoma WA 98445 vogelfs@net-venture.com Tri-Cities: 1516 Goethals 509-943-1758 Richland, WA 99354 Onnie Adams onnelle@aol.com Walla Walla: 111 NE C St 509-301-6333 Margo Cox, NCTM College Place, WA 99324 mrsc@margocox.org Wenatchee Valley: 117 N Franklin Ave 509-663-7654 Wenatchee, WA 98801 Diane Stober, NCTM Dalsegno1@aol.com West Sound: 360-275-9109 PO Box 1329 Karina Gordievich Alyn, WA 98524 karinavg@msn.com 360-733-5261 Whatcom County: 2707 Jefferson St Patricia A. Lundquist Bellingham, WA 98225 lundquiststudio@comcast.net Whidbey Island: 4952 Spinnaker Dr 360-579-7532 Rosemary Hendrikson Freeland, WA 98239 Thepianobench@whidbey.com

Yakima/Ellensburg:

Christian Buehler

Carole Franklin

509-249-2940

509-966-8558

elorac@nilknarf.us

Christian-buehler@live.com

405 S 15th Ave

7 N 42nd Ave

Yakima, WA 98902

Yakima, WA 98908

until it is mastered gives me more joy than rushing through a new piece "playing it" from beginning to end. I hope in our fast paced, instant results oriented society that my students will also learn to appreciate, if not downright savor, the lingering times.

I have some news to share about several of our member teachers! Three of them have applied for national certification and are now working on their Teacher Profile Projects. Also they have each applied for and been awarded a WSMTA Certification grant. Offer congratulations and encouragement to each of the following teachers: Katie O'Rourke (Bellingham), Benjamin Fowler (Tri-Cities), and Aline Fletcher (Spokane). I look forward to congratulating each of them again when they complete the certification process and hearing their stories about "lingering times" they encountered in the process.

As I write this letter, there are still 2 certification grants available. The grant is for \$100 which covers half of the certification application cost. If you are not nationally certified and the cost has been a "tricky spot" for you...linger no longer. Submit your certification application to MTNA then contact me to start the short and easy grant application. My contact information is below. Information about the complete certification process can be found at www.mtna.org. If you have any questions about any step of the process, just let me know...we'll work out those "tricky spots" together.

I look forward to hearing from you soon... Linger a little and enjoy these October days!

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

District News

District V Concert & Conference Yelena Balabanova Oct. 7 & 8

District V will be hosting Dr. Yelena Balabanova, as she performs, speaks, and teaches in Omak and Tonasket the weekend of Friday, Oct. 7th, and Saturday, Oct. 8th.

Friday afternoon Dr. Balabanova will conduct a special session with Omak High School band and choir students. Friday evening she will perform a public piano concert on the Steinway at the Omak Performing Arts Center at 7 PM.

Saturday's Workshops, entitled "Building Blocks for Strong Students: New Ways to Successfully Teach Artistry, Technique, and Creativity," will include three sessions: (1) Teaching technique and artistry from the early start. Approach built on Russian method: physical connection with the piano, healthy movement, and expression from the first note. (2) Building unity of efficient healthy technique, expressive playing, and creative interpretation in intermediate and advanced level students and their **repertoire**, including tips and tricks from a "Magic Hat." Q & A time will be provided for any topics. (3) A Master Class comprised of various levels of students, two students from each of District V's chap-

Teachers, students, families and music lovers are welcome at both the recital and workshops. Lunch will be provided on Saturday. For more information, registration forms, directions, etc., contact Roz Nau at *roznau@hotmail.com*, (509) 486-4673, or PO Box 728, Tonasket, WA 98855-0728.

District III Conference

OCTOBER 29, 2011 9am - 3pm, followed by an off-site no-host wine bar

Agnus Dei Lutheran Church 10511 Peacock Hill Ave. N. Gig Harbor, WA 98332

"MUSIC TEACHERS SPA DAY" A day to be pampered with mini-massages, lattes and lunch with our colleagues. Guest speakers Irene Bowling and Kathy Strickland will inspire and inform us in three sessions:

- 1. "IN THE TRENCHES" How to Win as an Independent Music Teacher. Strategies for the Independent Music Teacher to win the economic, artistic, and professional "war" in music education.
- 2. TEACHER BURNOUT Keeping Passion Alive in the Pursuit of Excellence. How to remain creative, inspiring, and happy as a music teacher.
- 3. "IT'S NOT JUST ABOUT BEING NICE!" The format for this session will be the MTNA Code of Ethics. Topics will include discussions about being professional, handling student transfers, ethical behavior among colleagues, and our commitment to our communities. Ethical

behavior is essential for smooth-running chapters and happy teachers.

Dr. Irene Bowling has taught and performed in Kitsap County and the Seattle area for the past 30 years. She has developed an extremely successful music school utilizing cutting-edge technology, old-fashioned know-how, and a network of creative and inspiring teachers and friends.

Kathy Strickland, WSMTA State Ethics Chair, is a charter member of the Gig Harbor Chapter and has served in nearly every chapter capacity, including the formation of the chapter's Trio Program. She has guided many area teachers and students in her 40-plus years of teaching and continues to be an inspiring mentor and innovative leader in both the local and state levels of WSMTA.

Fees:

\$15 Registration fee for District III members (\$15 covers lunch - the conference is free to District III members)

\$25 Registration fee for non-District III members (includes conference fee and lunch)

Mail checks by October 15, payable to District III WSMTA, to:

Erin Oliver 1707 6th Ave. SW Puyallup, WA 98371

For more information contact Co-Chairs Amy Grinsteiner, at 253-759-0527, amygrinsteiner@gmail.com or Mary Ellen Cavelti, NCTM at 253-845- 2358, molly60 music @comcast.net.

Chapter News

CHAPTER SPOTLIGHT

Bellingham

Greetings from Beautiful Bellingham on the Bay. We are excited for the upcoming 2012 state conference, which will be held at WWU, our backyard hilltop! At the last Bellingham conference we were treated to a bay cruise and we know that the Lynden chapter will have similar surprises in store.

Our chapter hosted its first Guild Auditions last year, as well as the WSMTA Musicianship Examinations. We awarded 11 grants from our scholarship fund to senior students of chapter members. Dr. Roger

Briggs gave a repertoire and composition master class, and Dr. Jay and Sandra Mauchley adjudicated for us in March. In January we were treated to a workshop by Cassandra Carr on story-telling in music. We chose to have fewer business meetings and instead watched music-related movies as a reason to gather, exchange information and enjoy each others' company. In addition, several of our members have held "mini-meetings"

as a mentoring vehicle for newer teachers.

On November 5 we will present an Arts Extravaganza at Whatcom Community College's Heiner Center, where we will be joined by community members to create a family-oriented celebration of local talent. We will enjoy the teaching of Maria Sier and Kay Vladislak in master class and ad-judications. We are also looking forward to a piano tuning demon-

stration by a local tuner and WWU's Professor Gilliam speaking on "The Ten Commandments of Fingering". Chapter member and state VP Nancy Heyer will "visit" us this year as well. The Bellingham Chapter will enjoy another music-filled year here in the fourth corner!

Barbara Borries & Lorraine Earle, NCTM Bellingham Chapter Co-Presidents

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DATES 'N DEADLINES

Oct. 1: Edmonds Chapter Baroque Dances Workshop.

Oct. 7 & 8: District V Concert & Workshop with Yelena Balabanova, in Omak & Tonasket.

Oct. 15: District I & II Conference in Marysville.

Oct. 15: Deadline for Dues Renewal for members participating in Adjudications.

Oct. 29: District III Conference in Gig Harbor.

Oct. 29: Eastside Chapter presents Hans Boepple (contact Sammie Marten: nmarten@msn.com or 425-454-1970).

Oct. 30: Enumclaw Chapter presents Peter Mack in Recital.

Nov. 4-6: MTNA Performance Competitions, Central Washington University.

Nov. 4-6: WSMTA Outstanding Artist Competition, Central Washington University.

Nov. 17-19: South King County Chapter Seminars: How to Prepare for a Career in Music.

IN THIS ISSUE

- ◆ WSMTA President on supporting Collegiate Chapters (page 1 & 3)
- ◆ Hall of Fame & Chapter of the Year Awards (pages 1 & 3)
- ◆ 2012 Conference in Bellingham (page 1)
- **♦ WSMTA Organ Chair on Concert Etiquette** (page 4)
- ◆ Annual List of WSMTA Officers, Chairs, & Chapter Presidents (pages 5-8)

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