The CLARION

Official Bulletin of the Washington State Music Teachers Association

President's Corner

with Mary Kaye Owen, NCTM



"The recital's canceled due to the snow," my viola teacher said. "YIP-PEE!!" I shouted after hanging up. Saved by the snow! I'd been nervous about playing the primer version of *Away In A Manger* with my husband (also a beginning viola student), while my 14-year-old son, Thommy, and most of the other students were playing things like Vivaldi's *Concerto in D minor*. Because I've had this unexpected reprieve, I swear I'll be calm, cool and collected at the spring recital when Dan and I play a selection from, perhaps, Suzuki Volume TWO!

When Thommy, chose to play viola in the 5th grade orchestra, I discovered that some of my South King County chapter colleagues' children were studying privately with a wonderful string teacher, Katrina Cordi. From Thommy's first lesson, Katrina's enthusiasm, expertise, and encouragement excited Dan and me so much that, four years later, we took up viola, too. I have a goal to play along with my piano students at their lessons, just like my piano teacher played his violin along with me all those years ago. Maybe after I get through Suzuki Volume Two, this dream will come true.

Always a fabulous seamstress, Grandma took a cobbler class back in the psychedelic '60s when she was almost the age I am now. The fancy high heels she made to match her beautiful dresses are still vividly etched in my mind! I need to tell her she inspires me to keep on learning new things.

BRAVO!

Washington State MTNA Composition Competition Winners

ELEMENTARY

Category	Student/Teacher
	Nicholas Woo/Sharon Van
1	Valin, NCTM

JUNIOR

Category	<u>Student/Teacher</u>
Winner	Benjamin Davis/Van Valin
H.M.	Oliver Hu/Van Valin
H.M.	David Lien / Peter Mack, NCTM
H.M.	Rebecca Mellema/Valerie
	Roubos

SENIOR

Category	Student/Teacher
Winner	Eric McElroy/Maria Sier
H.M.	Riley Crabtree / Barbara
	Roberts, NCTM
H.M.	Ernest So / Van Valin
H.M.	Robert Yaman/Mack

Thanks to all who participated!

Patrick Stephens, NCTM WSMTA Composition Competition Coordinator

Look for 2009 Conference registration forms and schedules in upcoming issues of The Clarion

FUTURE EVENTS

Young Composers Project Entry Deadline is February 17

The postmarked deadline for entries to this year's Young Composers Project is Tuesday, Feb. 17. Project Rules, Guidelines and Entry Form are available on our website: <u>www.</u> <u>wsmta.net</u>. 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.

(Continued on Page 3)

Getting Ready for WSMTA Conference 2009



By the time you read this, the holidays are just a memory, the Christmas music has long been filed and students are now preparing for Adjudications, which will be upon us before we know it. Perhaps you have become weary of the ice and snow and are longing for June. Maybe inspiration is flagging and you are hoping for revitalization. It's all coming, with the annual WSMTA Conference to be held in Yakima, WA June 21-25, 2009!

(Continued on Page 3)

WSMTA Contact Information

WSMTA Executive Office

Executive Manager: Judith Price, NCTM 4904 Hilton Rd. NE Olympia, WA 98516 Phone: 360-459-4338 e-mail: WSMTAoffice@comcast.net

WSMTA Website

www.wsmta.net

WSMTA Board of Directors

President: Mary Kaye Owen, NCTM 11445 SE 185th Place Renton, WA 98055-4370 Phone: 425-228-8721 e-mail: mary.k.owen@att.net President Elect: Jani Peterson, NCTM 2601 Mix Road Moscow, ID 83843 Phone: 208-883-3991 e-mail: jani@turbonet.com **Immediate Past President:** Margee Webster, NCTM 2246 S Rockwood Blvd. Spokane, WA 99203 Phone: 509-534-9678 e-mail: johnmargee@comcast.net Vice President: Dianne Johnston P.O. Box 655 Kingston, WA 98346 Phone: 360-297-3972 e-mail: dianne@silverlink.net Executive Manager: Judith Price, NCTM (see above) Treasurer: Patti Robertson, NCTM 209 E Canyon Drive Kennewick, WA 99337-5824 Phone: 509-586-2219 e-mail: pattiandken@charter.net Ed. Board Chair: Debra Florian, NCTM (see Ed. Board) Adjudications Chair: Janice Smith 15604 N Sycamore Mead, WÁ 99021-9376 Phone: 509-467-8147 e-mail: msmiths1@comcast.net District I VP: Sally Kirk 5399 Tenneson Sedro Woolley, WA 98284 Phone: 360-856-4938 e-mail: CTK@wavecable.com District II VP: Patrick Stephens, NCTM 2900 S Massachusetts St. Seattle, WA 98144 206-380-5579 e-mail: Patrick@pianotempo.com District 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 14711 SE 29th St. Vancouver, WA 98684 Phone: 360-256-8888 e-mail: cindapiano@comcast.net

District V VP: Harriet West 2213 S Beaumont Moses Lake, WA 98837 Phone: 509-765-6585 e-mail: dhwest6@gcpower.net District VI VP: Onnie Adams 1516 Goethals Richland, WA 99352 Phone: 509-943-1758 e-mail: onnelle@aol.com District VII VP: Stephanie Hill, NCTM 1132 Ripon Ave. Lewiston, ID 83501 Phone: 208-746-1122 e-mail: smhill@clearwire.net Clarion Editor: Gary Alan Hind (see below)

WSMTA Education Board

Ed. Board Chair: Debra Florian, NCTM 16725 Seminole Rd., NE Poulsbo, WA 98370 Phone: 360-697-1965 e-mail: flostudio@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: Jeffrey Gilliam, NCTM Dept. of Music, WWU 516 High Street Bellingham, WA 98225-9107 Phone: 360-650-3709 e-mail: gilliam@cc.wu.edu Ed. Board Member: Margee Webster, NCTM (see Immediate Past President) **Ed. Board Member:** Colleen Hunter, NCTM 2911 N 5th St. Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814 Phone: 208-664-0910 e-mail: h4d2@verizon.net Ed. Board Members, Ex-Officio Mary Kaye Owen, NCTM (see President) Janice Smith (see Adjudications Chair) Judith Price (see Executive Manager) Diane Stober, NCTM 117 N Franklin Ave. Wenatchee, WA 98801 Phone: 509-663-7654 e-mail: dalsegno1@aol.com

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.

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

CLARION Contributors Guide

ARTICLES:

- must be submitted no later than the 1st day of the month previous to publication month.

- must be in the form of MS Word documents attached to email messages.

- must contain <u>no special formatting</u>, other than normal tab, and carriage returns.

- Please do not use any custom tabbing or indents.

- Please use single line vertical spacing only.

- <u>Please double space between sen-</u> <u>tences</u>.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, CONTACT THE EDITOR

ADVERTISING:

- Advertising Request Forms are available from the WSMTA Executive Office.

WSMTA Officers, Chairs, & Chapter Presidents Lists

new MusicLink Chair: Valerie Tedrow 232 Burnett Ave. S., #A11 Renton, WA 98507 425-254-3931 or 425-208-6289 cell wwjdvt@comcast.net

MEMBERSHIP

Welcome New Members!

Eastside Chapter Louise Bush Shizuko Komeya

Edmonds Chapter Marian Stewart

Kitsap County Chapter Leslie Devine

Mason County Chapter Jacqueline Eaton

Seattle Chapter Robert Frain Tina Kouratachvili

Skagit Valley Chapter Sarah Wilson

Snohomish Chapter Christa Phillipson

South King County Chapter Katrina M. Cordi

Whidbey Island Chapter Verna Lee Morgan

Collegiate Michelle Garrett Gena Campbell Willow Fitzgerald Frances Hunsberger Dmitriy Kosovskiy Audrey Miller Jonathan Poelman Maritza Soto Samantha Yeung

<u>Future Events</u>

(Continued from Page 1)

Young Composers Project

(Continued from Page 1)

Please take time to carefully reread all instructions. Remember that the Education Board recently adopted a new policy for the YCP, which takes effect this year: The only materials that will be returned to teachers and students are the Adjudicator Evaluations and the Certificates for your students. As is customary in many projects and competitions, 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 WSMTA website, please contact me at <u>ks88keys@gmail.com</u> or 206-842-7150, and I will send the information to you via e-mail or U.S. Mail.

> Krista Seely Young Composers Project Chair

WSMTA Conference 2009 (Continued from Page 1)

Yakima Valley Visions



Headlining the week is guest clinician Ingrid Clarfield, Professor of Piano and Coordinator of the Piano Department at Westminster Choir College of Rider University in Princeton, New Jersey. In addition to speaking on several topics of great interest (more on that later), she will conduct master classes for students of all levels; sessions will be devoted to elementary/early intermediate and intermediate/early advanced. We invite you to send recordings of students of any level to me, Carol Cross at 103 W. 9th, Ellensburg, WA. Any format will be accepted—CD, DVD, or VHS. The deadline is April 10th, 2009.

Also on tap are some fascinating presentations by familiar and favorite colleagues, as well as teachers new to WSMTA. Here is a sampling:

From Stockton, California, Eulson Kim and Dr. Terrence Rust will bring their thoughts on "Realizing Your Student's Full Potential" through development of a total piano technique. Finger facility and a beautiful tone are produced through the development of the muscles and by using the natural motions of the body. We will find out how!

Patrick Stephens, NCTM and Cassandra Carr, NCTM, will collaborate in a presentation entitled, "What's the Story? Thoughts on Interpretation." According to Stephens and Carr, music is just like life: there are many models of excellence, many routes leading to honesty of expression and the ability to touch the hearts of others. Because of their emotional complexity, the study of great works provides a powerful metaphor for the complications of life. The finale will be an abbreviated version of Poulenc's Story of Babar with Cassandra at the piano and Patrick reading the accompanying text.

Bitsy Bidwell, Outreach Director for the Washington State Arts Commission, speaking on "Promoting Your Event or Program in Financially Challenging Times", will lead us in an exploration of how information flows through informal channels and how to tap into those channels.

A demonstration and discussion of "Undiscovered Intermediate and Advanced Preludes for Piano" by Dr. Jonathan Edward Mann of the University of Idaho will show how these miniature masterpieces can bridge the gap between easier repertoire and the sophisticated preludes of Chopin, Scriabin and Debussy. They also can serve as encouraging teaching tools to introduce precollege students to transposition, theory and the beauties of small form.

Stay tuned for more tantalizing topics and be sure to be in Yakima June 21-25!

Carol Cross, NCTM 2009 Conference Chair Yakima-Ellensburg Chapter President

EDUCATION

CERTIFICATION CORNER

MTNA Certification in Piano

Ann Paul, NCTM Coeur d'Alene, ID

Cassandra Bridges, NCTM Wenatchee

WSMTA Certification in Piano

Kay Veteto, NCTM Wenatchee

Certa Faye Cation Answers Your Certification Questions

Dear Certa

I have been teaching for 25 years, but I have no college credits. Can I still become certified and if so, what is the process?

Ken Worthy

Certa Faye:

Dear Mr. Worthy

You are certifiable! You may take proficiency examinations in music theory, music history and pedagogy in place of credits and you may verify performances in a few different ways or you may take classes and submit a transcript.

You may submit your proposed repertoire for approval and when approved, perform it for 3 witnesses or you may submit a letter from a college level teacher verifying that you have met the performance requirements and listing the pieces performed. None of the remaining portions of the application require any college credits at all.

Yes, Mr. Worthy, Y'all ken do it! Certa Faye

At the June 2008 meeting, the WSMTA Board of Directors voted to reimburse one half (\$100) of the Certification Application Fee for the first ten teachers who apply. Documentation of submitting an approved certification application and fee must be sent to the WSMTA Certification Chair before reimbursement is made. Please email me if you have any questions about the grants.

Grants have been awarded to the following teachers:

Forrest Kinney, North Bend Patricia A. Ray, Poulsbo

Diane Stober, NCTM WSMTA Certification Chair

ENRICHMENT

MusicLink

I am excited to have become your Washington State MusicLink coordinator. I look forward to the new opportunities and experiences that I anticipate for all of us, and I would like to encourage you to become comfortable with MusicLink.

I decided not to explain everything now. There are several facets and it can seem confusing. Instead I'll contribute smaller segments and answer FAQs.

A common question is who can become a MusicLink teacher. Do you teach piano? Voice? You can be a MusicLink teacher! Do you teach tuba? Oom-pah! You can be a Music-Link teacher! There are no criteria you must meet other than being willing and passing a background check. If you teach music, you can be a MusicLink teacher! Ask me how.

Recall your favorite music teachers. Weren't the exceptional teachers the ones who went the extra mile for you? The ones who went a little further to encourage you when you struggled? The ones who were superb examples of our profession? Aren't you the musician you are today because of them? Collaborating with MusicLink can help you resemble those superb teachers. MusicLink is our opportunity to give back or pay it forward.

In the next issue I'll take up The Big Question: Are there matching funds for the amount you offer in a scholarship? (No.) And The Other Big Question: Is there any way to be compensated for MusicLink expenses? (Yes.)

In the meantime I am here to answer questions, solve problems, and initiate MusicLink endeavors. Call me, text me, email me — I'm available!

Valerie Tedrow WSMTA MusicLink Coordinator



Are you acquainted with the saying that if you haven't learned anything lately you probably haven't taught much either? Frances Clark said something to that effect and she was a great example of both learning and teaching. I have run into that comment in various forms a number of times in the past few months. This has caused me to ponder and reflect on the meaning and how it applies to me. It has brought some experiences to my mind. Here are a couple of examples.

Each fall we invite all the local teachers to our first meeting and luncheon. Our goal is to acquaint them with MTNA, WSMTA and our local chapter. This is one way we work to expand our membership. I was interested in the response of one teacher when I contacted her after the meeting. She expressed how much she appreciated being invited, how she enjoyed the presentation and the luncheon, as well as meeting the other teachers. When I asked if she would like to join our chapter, which meets monthly, her comment was that she has been teaching for over thirty years, knows what she is doing and felt no need to join our group. That was a loss for us as well as for her, as it would have helped each of us to learn from her experiences and knowledge.

I contrast that experience with one when the WSMTA President, Lois Jacobson, made her chapter visit during her term. She arrived at our airport having piloted her own plane to Moses Lake. That in itself was impressive! During her presentation she said that learning to fly had been one of the best things she could do for her students. In learning to fly, she realized how difficult it can be to learn something new, and what a great need there was for constant repetition. She said that helped her be more patient with her students as she repeated things over and over as she taught.

Do you find what I have found, that the more you teach, the more you learn, and the more you learn,



the more you realize how much there is yet to learn? Learning about personalities, learning styles, new music, ways to teach phrasing, rhythm, how objects help us teach, etc.

Some of those places to learn are at our chapter meetings, our conferences and conventions, workshops and from one another. At every event I have attended I have come away having learned something. Maybe it is as simple as a piece of music that would be just right for a particular student, or a new way to look at something, a new idea or a way to improve my studio. Sometimes it is the tough one of seeing something I need to improve. I always come away being recharged to go back to work in my studio.

This year it has been the challenge of improvisation. I grew up with a Mom and Grandpa that played only by ear. They were determined that I would learn to play strictly by reading. Now I see a need for the best of both worlds and am striving to implement new learning into my studio with what I have learned about improvisation this past year. Believe me it is "baby steps" all the way!

While we are at the beginning of a new year with resolutions, I would like to challenge each of us to look at our own attitudes about learning and improve in at least one area. Who is the best critic to find where we need to improve? Ourselves! Are we taking advantage of all the opportunities there are to learn and attending them as much as possible?

I know you are great teachers. I have heard many of your students, I have listened to conversations about the things you do in your studios. I see the web sites and the wonderful things being carried out in your chapters. We belong to a grand organization of gifted and dedicated teachers and I am grateful for all the opportunities offered for continued education.

I would love to hear from you about the things that you have or are learning and what difference it is making in your teaching.

In conclusion, let's turn that first thought around. If we have learned something lately, we have probably taught much also!

> Doreen Slaugh, NCTM WSMTA IMTF Chair



Snowfest by Melody Bober, Early Intermediate Solo published by FJH, \$2.50

The very talented Melody Bober writes creative solos that really appeal to students. This newest sheet is no exception. It is filled with energy and joy. (It is not reflective of the snow experiences many of us have had in recent weeks!) Educational and pianistic elements include a legato right hand over a staccato left hand, lots of chord inversions (in several keys) and a section with a left hand melody. Bright ending, good recital piece.

Ghost Waltz by Edwin Mclean, Late Elementary Solo, published by FJH, \$2.50

A graceful waltz bass is a challenge to play and teach, and this attractive, melodic waltz ("Moderato con moto; espressivo") is a good vehicle for such lessons. Instead of a consistent oom-pah-pah bass, the left hand rhythmic motif is varied, and lends itself to more lyric playing. *Mischievous Monkeys* by Elizabeth W. Greenleaf, Late Elementary Solo, published by FJH, \$2.50

With the use of hand crossing, colorful intervals (tri-tones and augmented sixths) this quick and clever solo sounds much more difficult than it is. (I LOVE music that sounds hard but is easy to learn for the practicingimpaired.) A sparkling tempo and a dramatic pause, plus movement around the keyboard, makes this a charming and showy solo.

Duet Treasures, Vol. 1 (\$6.95) Beginning and Vol. 2 (\$7.50) Intermediate, are from the Adult Piano Curriculum, by Helen Marlais, published by FJH

There are beginning adult students who are happy to play from children's books, but for those who aren't, particularly, these duet collections are very appealing, and without any pictures or big notes. Volume 1 includes folk songs such as Aura Lee, When Irish Eyes are Smiling, and Simple Gifts (various arrangers.) Volume 2 includes arrangements of Clair de Lune, the Hungarian Rhapsody No. 2, and an original and very clever duet titled Carnivale by Washington's own talented Valerie Roth Roubos. Duets are so helpful in teaching rhythm, balance, nuance, voicing, and phrasing. Just when a teacher might think that she cannot say "a half note gets two counts" ONE MORE TIME, playing a duet with a student can be a non-verbal way of getting the point across.

> Robin Chadwick, NCTM WSMTA New Music Chair



BULLETIN BOARD

Touching Student Poem

District VI Vice President, Onnie Adams submitted the following poem, written by 13-year-old piano student, Cecily Bader of Richland, WA. Cecily, whose teacher is Holly Harty, wrote this poem for the public school Reflections Program.

Warmth

In a room full of yellow, I sit. My cold hands lay on the piano before me. I take a deep breath. A silent puff of chill air floats and disappears. Outside, a thin blanket of snow covers the hard ground. Frost tickles the windows. Turning, I see the music before me. I bid my frigid hands to move through the still air to the keys. The first note interrupts the cold, motionless air. The next is more welcoming. the piece unfolds itself, warming the air. Sharps and flats whiz through the arpeggios. Chords unravel; notes throw themselves off the page. Wild passages ease into calmer ones and back again. At last, the final measure. My hands, now hot and sweaty, fall like rocks onto the ending notes. I throw my whole weight onto the last chord. For an instant, my eyes close. Automatically, my hands pull off the instrument, My foot, off the pedal. My arms fall methodically like leaves to my legs. In a room full of yellow, I sit. head bowed, hands warm and heart happy.

ADVERTISEMENTS







Sales Appraisals Repairs

Rentals

Receive \$350-\$1,000 Just for Referring a Buyer!

The Piano Connection A Music Teacher-Founded Service

Pianos for Sale on the Private Market

Steinway B Belonged to a renowned opera singerteacher. Wonderful sound, new soundboard, new pinblock, new strings, new Steinway action. *Nothing left to do!* Refinished ebony, ivory keys and duet artist bench. Less than half the price of a new B at \$34,500!

Petrof 5'8" Highly regarded for its lyrical tone and European craftsmanship. Impressive dynamic range. Flawless, barely played by adult beginner. \$17,950.

Steinway O Complex tone quality unique to the vintage era. New action, new strings, reguilded, classic refinished ebony cabinet, ivories. A strong investment at \$22,500.

August Forster 6'3" 1984 Focused European tone quality, sounds like a 7-foot piano. New hammers, regulated, voiced, detailed. A very special piano for only \$29,500.

Baldwin L 6'3" A fine 1982 instrument chosen by a piano teacher for retirement, satin ebony, artist bench. \$16,950.

Knabe concert grand, perfect for school, church, or hall. Buy for its phenomenal tone. Only \$13,650!

For photos and more information see www.thepianoconnection.com, email WSMTA/ OMTA member esther_warkov@comcast.net or call 971-255-0388



2008-2009 Piano Series • Season Begins November 2nd!

November 2, 2008 "Musical Journeys and Discoveries: A Program of French and Russian Music" Charles Enlow

January 25, 2009 "The New 'Three B's': Beethoven, Brahms and the Beatles" Jensina Byington and Jeff Junkinsmith

April 19, 2009 "To Vienna and St. Petersburg with Two Pianos" Nancy Matesky and Gloria Swisher

Recitals benefit the Shoreline Piano Scholarship Fund

All Recitals are on Sunday at 3:00 p.m. - Campus Theater 16101 Greenwood Ave N, Shoreline, WA 98133

For maps and driving directions go to: www.shoreline.edu/CollegeMaps.html Parking on campus is free on Sundays

Tickets available at the door.

Ticket Prices (per recital):

General	\$15.00
Discount	\$10.00
SCC/Children	.\$5.00

Questions? Contact Nancy Matesky, (206) 546-4618

Shoreline Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, sexual orientation, or age in its programs and activities.



Washington State Music Teachers Association 4904 Hilton Road NE Olympia, WA 98516 NON PROFIT US POSTAGE PAID SILVERDALE WA PERMIT NO 111



Jan. 31: Education Board meeting at SeaTac.

Jan. 31: Certification Exams at SeaTac.

Feb. 1: Board of Directors meeting at SeaTac.

Feb. 17: Deadline for Young Composers Project entries.

March 1: Deadline for submitting Chapter of the Year application.

March 28-April 1: MTNA Conference, Atlanta, Georgia.

June 21-25: WSMTA Conference in Yakima.

<u>In This Issue</u>

- **Washington State MTNA Composition Competition Winners** (page 1)
- **WSMTA welcomes new Music Link** and IMTF Chairs (page 4)
- **WSMTA will reimburse** ¹/₂ Certification fee for first 10 Applicants. (p. 4)
- ***** Another fine Conference shaping up for June (page 1)

Remember to visit your WSMTA website at : www.wsmta.net & <u>see</u> <u>The CLARION in full color!</u>