



WASHINGTON STATE  
MUSIC TEACHERS  
ASSOCIATION

# THE CLARION

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**June 15, 2021:** Education Board Meeting

**June 16, 2021:** Board of Directors Meeting

**June 17-19, 2021:** WSMTA State Virtual Conference

**September 25-26, 2021:** WSMTA Leadership Seminar · Hilton Garden Inn · Yakima

**March 26-30, 2022:** MTNA National Conference · Minneapolis, Minnesota

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## PRESIDENT'S CORNER



**Karen Hollenback, NCTM**  
WSMTA President

*"Someone always leaves and then we have to say goodbye. I hate goodbyes. I know what I need. I need more hellos!"* (said by Snoopy, written by Charles Schulz).

My sentiments exactly, as I write my final President's Corner. So, I will say a quick goodbye as your 2019-2021 WSMTA President. It has been an amazing two years.

I can't thank each of you enough for all of your support, wisdom, and effort as together we navigated through unfamiliar circumstances. For every unexpected challenge, YOU were there providing encouragement, an idea for a solution, and willing hands to make a new way of doing things work with great success.

I especially want to thank the 2019-2020 Board of Directors who worked through some tough decisions when the pandemic first hit, and the 2020-2021 Board of Directors who continued with enthusiasm to keep the vision and goals of WSMTA not just alive, but thriving, as the pandemic wore on.

Thank you also to the Education Board during these past two years—the programs under your jurisdiction were greatly impacted by the pandemic, but given your job description as "music teachers" you had the skills to improvise and compose at a moment's notice. Solutions were figured out with a few frustrations and uncertainty, but mostly, with a lot of grace, flexibility, and even laughter.

I take my hat off to **Stephanie White, NCTM**, our fabulous WSMTA MAP Chair, and all the Chapter MAP Chairs who worked their magic to keep the Music Artistry Program going. Thank you also to **Karen Scholten**, WSMTA MLP Chair, who worked with all the chapters to make the Music Literacy Program happen, pandemic or not! Another thank you goes to **Mary Ellen**



**Cavelti, NCTM** our Hall of Fame Chair for many years. Since all of these chairs are stepping down, I want to wish them every success and happiness on their next adventure—WSMTA has benefitted greatly from their contributions.

There are many more people I could thank by name, but there simply isn't room here. **Please know that you are appreciated more than words can ever convey.**

And now, for a hello: I want to welcome **Kathy Mortensen** as your next President! She will be officially assuming her duties at the end of the 2021 WSMTA Conference. Thoughtful, enthusiastic, creative, cheerful, and innovative are just a few of the words I would use to describe her. We will all benefit from her leadership and commitment to WSMTA as our next WSMTA President. I have enjoyed working with her for the past four years in her terms as WSMTA Vice President and President-Elect, and I wish her smooth sailing in the days ahead.

As I end this column, I want to wish each of you a restful, healthy, relaxing summer. Your work as a music teacher is not always easy, nor are the results of the seeds you so carefully plant always visible. But you are indispensable. Who else can keep the music playing?

Gratefully,

*Karen Hollenback, NCTM*

*Karen Hollenback, NCTM  
WSMTA President*



*Colleen Hunter, NCTM, WSMTA Vice President; Kathy Mortensen, WSMTA President-Elect; and Karen Hollenback, NCTM, WSMTA President*

## WSMTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### PRESIDENT

Karen Hollenback, NCTM

### PRESIDENT ELECT

Kathy Mortensen

### IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Krista Seely

### VICE PRESIDENT

Colleen Hunter, NCTM

### ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR

Carrie Kahler

### TREASURER

Mary Grant, NCTM

### DISTRICT I DIRECTOR

Brandi Bassett

### DISTRICT II DIRECTOR

Evelyn Hartwell

### DISTRICT III DIRECTOR

Susan Speicher

### DISTRICT IV DIRECTOR

Kira Theine, NCTM

### DISTRICT V DIRECTOR

Preta Laughlin, NCTM

### DISTRICT VI DIRECTOR

Margo Cox

### DISTRICT VII DIRECTOR

Deborah Rambo Sinn, NCTM

### MUSIC ARTISTRY PROGRAM CHAIR

Stephanie White, NCTM

### COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR

Samantha Yeung

### EDUCATION BOARD CHAIR

Laurie Eash, NCTM

## WSMTA EDUCATION BOARD

### EDUCATION BOARD CHAIR

Krista Seely

### EDUCATION BOARD MEMBERS

Janice Smith, NCTM

Peter Mack, NCTM

Merilyn Jacobson, NCTM

Michelle Mielke, NCTM

### ED. BOARD MEMBERS, EX-OFFICIO

Karen Hollenback, NCTM

Stephanie White, NCTM

Carrie Kahler

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## PROPOSED BY-LAWS CHANGE

Karen Hollenback, NCTM, WSM TA President

At the January 2021 Board of Directors meeting, a change to the current By-laws was proposed and discussed.

This wording change is an effort to continue focusing on the strategic plan adopted by the Board in January 2018 and to facilitate ongoing short and long range planning for WSM TA. As required by our By-laws, the proposed change is presented here:

### CURRENT BYLAWS WORDING:

#### Article XI: Committees

##### Section 3. Development Committee

The Development Committee shall be responsible for continuous study of WSM TA structure, services and membership, for study and development of short and long range goals and for making recommendations based on these studies. The Immediate Past President may serve as Chair of this Committee. Other members shall include the President, President-Elect, Vice-President, Education Board Chair, the Treasurer, and one or more additional active members appointed by the President.

### PROPOSED BYLAWS WORDING:

#### Article XI: Committees

##### Section 3. Steering Committee

The Steering Committee will be responsible for reviewing WSM TA's structure and services. Based on those reviews they will offer guidance and advice to the Board of Directors, and provide strategic direction in the development of short and long range goals for the organization. The committee shall include the President, President-Elect, Vice-President, Education Board Chair, Treasurer, Immediate Past President and one or more additional active members appointed by the President. The chair of this committee will be selected from the members of the committee by a vote of the committee members.

As required by our By-laws, this wording change has been reviewed and approved by MTNA.

This proposed change will be formally presented to the membership at the opening session of the WSM TA Conference in June 2021. Voting by the membership on the change will occur at the closing session of the WSM TA Conference in June 2021.

If there are any questions about this proposed By-laws change please contact Karen Hollenback, NCTM, WSM TA President.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

**Edmonds Chapter**  
Marda Strobeck

**South King County Chapter**  
Annamarie Wright



## 2021 LEADERSHIP SEMINAR

**LIVE! IN-PERSON!  
TOGETHER AGAIN!**

**September 25-26, 2021**  
Noon on Sat to Noon on Sun  
Hilton Garden Inn,  
Yakima, WA

*Details and Registration  
coming this summer*

Contact Colleen Hunter, NCTM at  
[colleenhunterpiano@gmail.com](mailto:colleenhunterpiano@gmail.com)  
with any questions.



Follow WSM TA on Instagram!  
**@WASStateMTA**

[www.instagram.com/wastatenta](http://www.instagram.com/wastatenta)

# FROM THE ARCHIVES

Carrie Kahler, WSMTA Administrative Coordinator

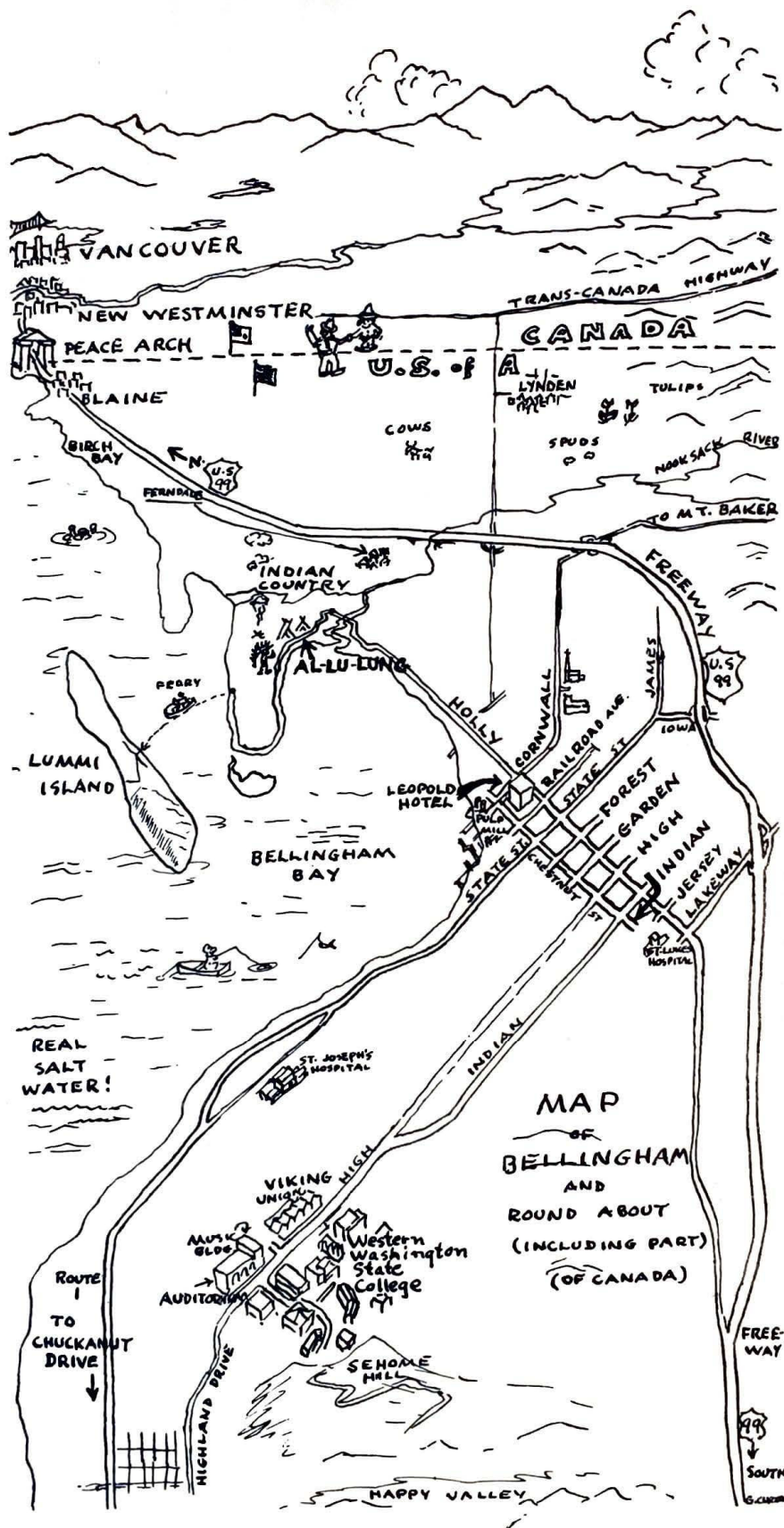
This month we'll be exploring some past WSMTA Conference Booklets. Each year's convention had its own booklet, and while some things have remained the same (thanking conference planning committee members and the President's opening address, for example), others are unique.

The 1962 convention in Bellingham included "Elevenses" on its Canadian Day, and a hand-drawn map of the region by Mr. Gordon Curzon.

The 1927 program had a session on the "Choral Music of Bach with a Vocal Quartet Demonstration" and tea at Mrs. Weyerhaeuser's Garden. Also in 1927, a new railway regulation permitted conference attendees to ride at "one and one-half fare rates... from all points in Washington, Portland, Oregon, and on the Great Northern Railway in British Columbia." Discussions included how to present Sight Singing in Public School music classes (Movable Doh, The Ward System, "A New System called Intervalia") and the "Problems of Modern Piano Teaching" among others.

The 1987 convention included a presentation on "String Materials and Techniques for the Middle Ages" and the premier of WSMTA Commissioned Composer Bern Herbolsheimer's *Sonata for Marimba*.

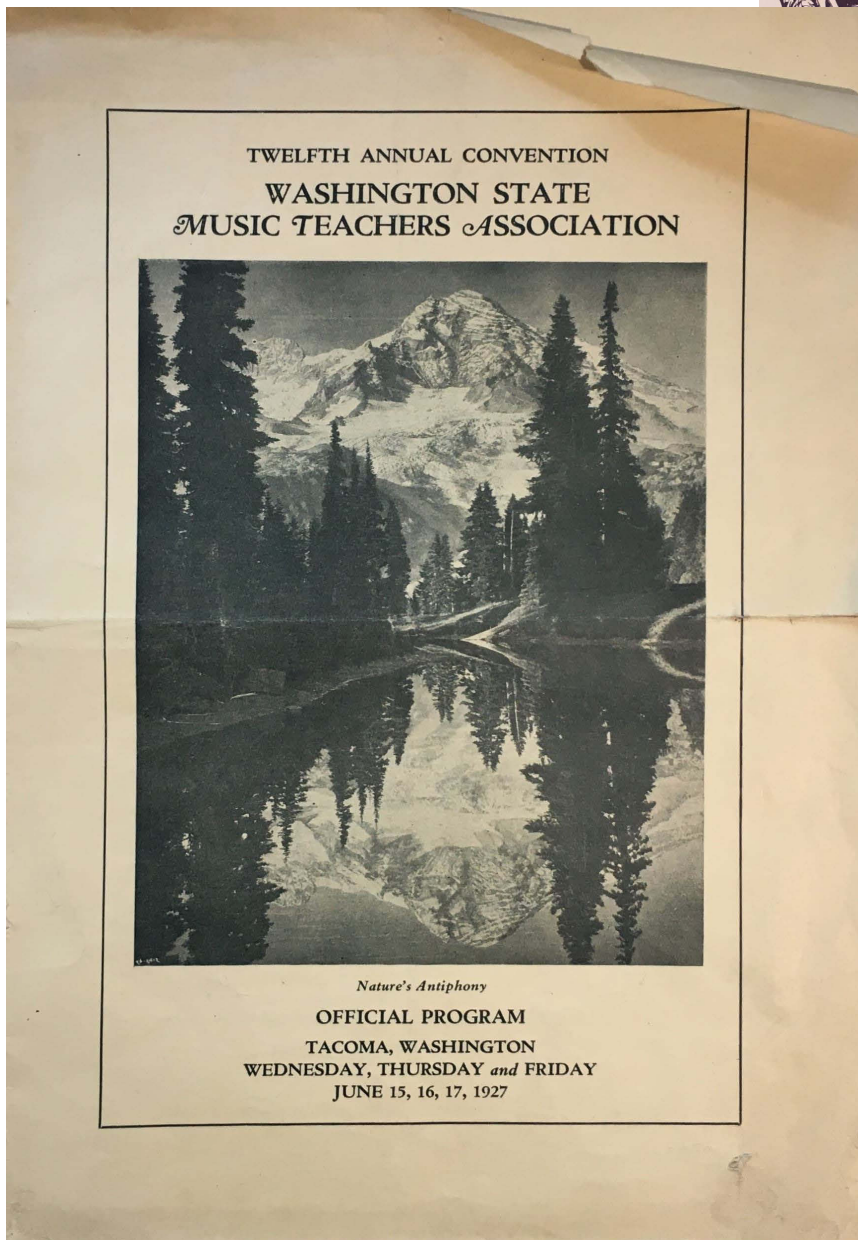
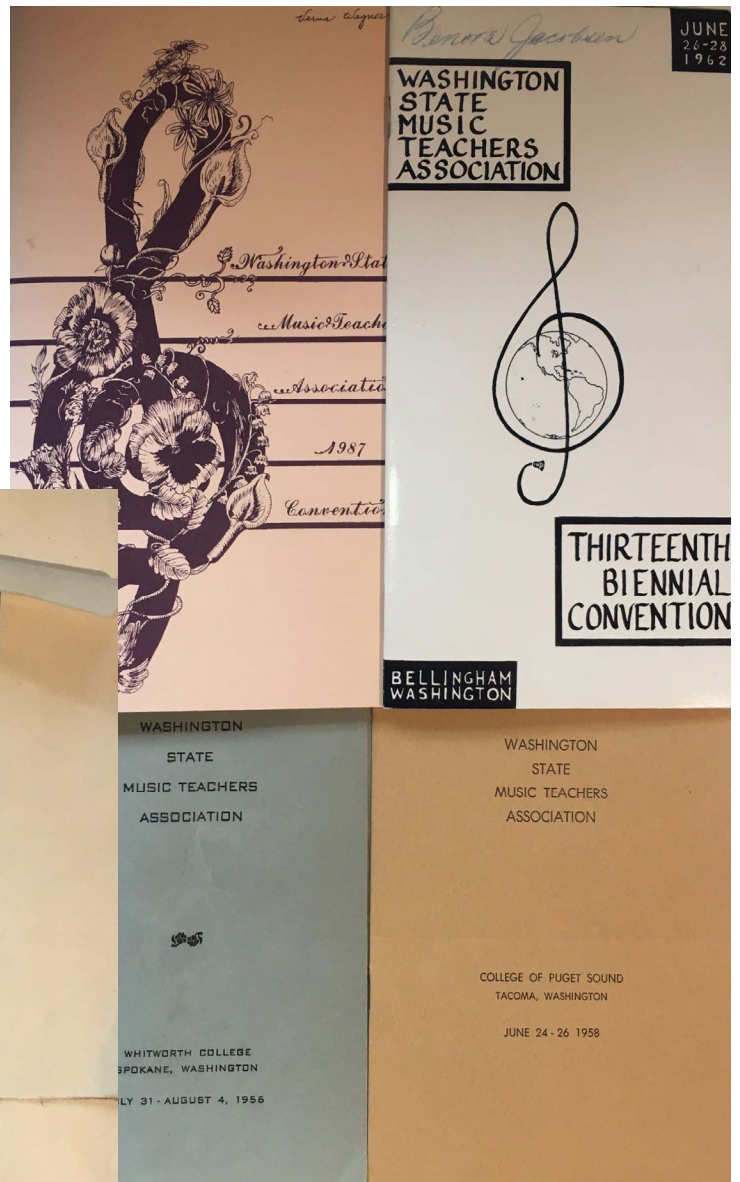
While the 2021 WSMTA Conference will be virtual, our talented Communications Coordinator will still be creating a



# STATE NEWS

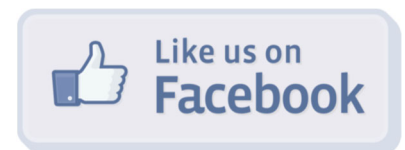
conference booklet that will help us all have a positive experience. The booklet will be mailed to all those who registered by May 28th, and will be available digitally to all conference attendees.

The conference booklet also serves as a historical record of the concerns, conversations, and scholarship for future WSMTA members. I am looking forward to (as the 1987 Conference booklet put it) an interchange of musical ideas and the furtherance of musical culture at this year's conference.



(Above) WSMTA Conference Booklets from 1987, 1962, 1956, and 1958

(Left) WSMTA Conference Booklet from June 1927



Stay connected with WSMTA on Facebook! Find us at [www.facebook.com/WASStateMTA](http://www.facebook.com/WASStateMTA)

## 2021 WSM TA VIRTUAL STATE CONFERENCE June 16-19, 2021: The WSM TA State Conference is Coming to YOU!

Laura Curtis, Kira Miller, NCTM, and Carrie Kahler, Conference Committee

This year's conference, although virtual, is still quite live. Instead of all the sessions being pre-recorded videos, the majority of the presentations this year are Zoom live which allows you to ask questions through chat. All of the live presentations will be recorded and available to watch beginning July 1st. Pre-recorded presentations will be available for your viewing pleasure beginning Tuesday, June 15th, and everything will be available to you until August 31st.

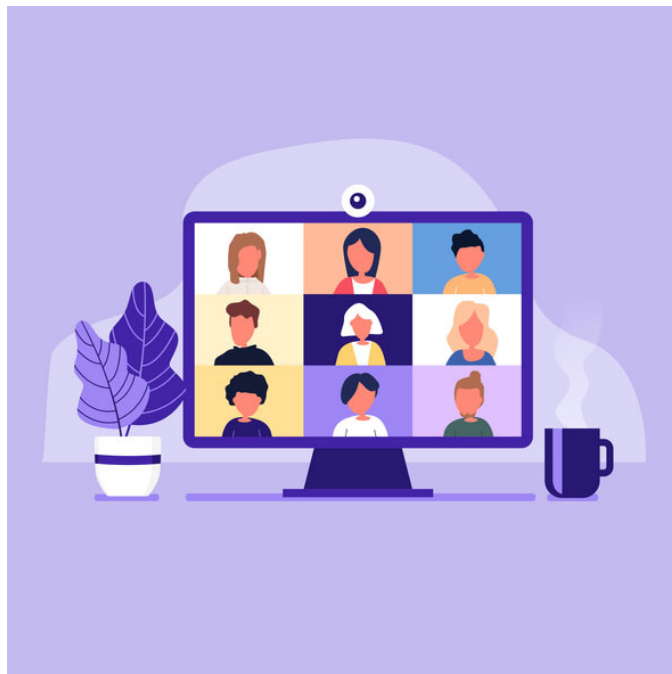
The schedule looks like past in-person conferences and includes:

- Live master classes with our guest artists, Drs. Jeffrey and Karen Savage
- Guest Artist Recital Friday at 7:00 (it will be spectacular!)
- Winners and Honors Recitals
- Exhibit Hall
- Social gatherings
- And gobs of presentations

This year we have 27 presenters and 15 of the presentations are not piano specific. I don't have room to list all of them here, but they include:

- Autism Spectrum Disorder in Private Lessons
- Clarinet Playing Made Easy
- Encouraging Students to Compose
- Building Community Through Music Teaching and Performance
- Composing Your Online Studio (useful Zoom features and other tech issues)

Our guest artists Drs. Jeffrey and Karan Savage, both have Masters and Doctoral degrees from Julliard. Many of you know them from their time at WSU and their involvement with WSM TA. Currently they reside in Kansas City and are on the faculty at UMKC Conservatory (University of Missouri-Kansas



Conference Guest Artists Dr. Jeffrey Savage and Dr. Karen Savage

City). Their piano duo, 88SQUARED, is acclaimed internationally and has won many prestigious awards. Jeff and Karen are frequently invited to adjudicate and give presentations for MTNA and have given masterclasses at such universities as Brigham Young University, Indiana University, University of Oregon, Wuhan Conservatory, and Eastman.

# 2021 WSM TA VIRTUAL STATE CONFERENCE

## Conference Schedule

*Conference schedule subject to change.*

### Tuesday, June 15 Pre-Conference

- **Education Board Meeting**

*All pre-recorded sessions open to conference attendees.*

- Anna Barbee: *Catching Creativity*
- Christine Damm: *Clarinet Playing Made Easy: Improve Your Section In 5 Easy Steps*
- Esther Hayter: *Teaching Strategies for Group Classes of Various Ages and Levels*
- Josh Lindberg: *Piano Class at the High School Level*
- Lark Powers: *Beethoven the Teacher: Insights on Beethoven's Teaching Creativity as seen through his exercises and his commentary on J.B. Cramer's Etudes*
- Dr. Mark Stevens: *Unlocking The Secrets of Modern Music Making*
- Sophia Tegart: *Where Are All the Women? Incorporating Music By Women Composers Into Our Teaching Repertoire*

### Wednesday, June 16 Pre-Conference

- **Board of Directors Meeting**
- **WSU Faculty Concert**

*Reception to follow*

### Thursday, June 17 Conference Day 1

- Warm-Up: Meditation with Rose Freeman
  - **WSMTA General Opening Meeting**
  - Dr. Karen Savage: *Collaborative Playing*
  - Davis Hill: *Business Plan For Your Studio*
  - Jensina Oliver: *It's All About the Pulse!*
  - **Meal and Mentoring**
  - Mary Walby: *Skeletal Alignment*
  - Greg Pressley: *Music and Movement*
  - Dr. Jeffrey Savage: Masterclass
  - Q&A with Mark Stevens
  - **Close It Down Social**
  - **Washington Winners Concert**
- Reception to follow*

### Friday, June 18 Conference Day 2

- Warm-Up Session: Conducting with Vicki Tobin
  - Dr. Jeffrey Savage: Presentation
  - Ryan Worswick: *Staging the Scene: Composing Your Online Studio*
  - Dr. Deborah Rambo Sinn: *Articulation*
  - Kristin Vining: *Encouraging Students to Compose*
  - **Meal and Mentoring**
  - RoseMarie Tamburri: *Independent Music Teacher Forum Session*
  - Q&A with Lark Powers
  - Dr. Karen Savage: Masterclass
  - Joann Richardson: *Artful Hymn Preparation*
  - Q&A with Esther Hayter
  - **Close It Down Social**
  - **Guest Artists Concert**
- Reception to follow*

### Saturday, June 19 Conference Day 3

#### High School Track

- Warm-Up: Meditation with Rose Freeman
- **Closing General Meeting**
- **High School Session:** *Special Collections from the WSU Library to Inspire Students*
- **High School Session:** *Improvisation and the Jazz Musician: Hands-On Activities for the Beginning and Intermediate Jazz Player with Jake Svendsen*
- Q&A with Christine Damm
- Rose Freeman: Certification 101
- **Meal and Mentoring**
- **High School Session:** *So You Want to be a Music Major? Tips for Success in Your Audition and Beyond with Mark Stevens*
- Andrew D'Antonio: *Autism Spectrum Disorder in Private Music Lessons*
- **High School Session:** *How to Memorize Music: Tips and Methods for Memorizing Music Securely*
- Q&A with Josh Lindberg
- Q&A with Sophia Tegart
- **Close It Down Social and Raffle Drawing**

# WSMTA SLATE OF OFFICER NOMINEES

## 2021-2023 Nominees for Vice President and District II, IV, VI Directors

**Kathy Mortensen, NCTM**, Nominating Committee Chair, **Peter Mack, NCTM**, and **Lisa Sauer**, Nominating Committee Members

Our thanks and appreciation to the following members who have accepted the nomination for the following Board of Directors offices:

- **WSMTA Vice President:** Kira Miller (Theine), NCTM (Mason County Chapter)
- **District II Director:** Amanda Harris (Eastside Chapter)
- **District IV Director:** Selah Newkirk (Centralia Chapter)
- **District VI Director:** Margo Cox, NCTM (Walla Walla Chapter)

These members will be officially placed in nomination at the Opening Session of the 2021 virtual WSMTA Conference on June 17, and will be voted on at the Closing Session, June 19. We appreciate our fellow members/teachers who are willing to contribute ideas, time and energy on behalf of the membership.

### Nominee for WSMTA Vice President



Kira Miller, NCTM

**Kira Miller (Theine), NCTM**, was born and raised in Hoquiam and graduated from Hoquiam High School in 1997. She then attended Western Washington University in Bellingham, WA and received her Bachelor of Music History and Literature in March 2002. While at WWU, Kira participated in Collegium Musicum, which toured Europe, including Italy and Hungary.

After college, she moved to the Olympia area where she currently teaches piano and flute. She is a member of the Mason County and Olympia Chapters. For the Mason County Chapter, she has served as Secretary (2004-2005), President (2005-2006), a second term as Secretary (2013-2015), and a second term as President (2015-2018). For the Olympia Chapter, she has served as Flute Adjudications Chair (2005-2007) and Secretary (2007-2008). Kira currently serves as WSMTA District IV Director and WSMTA State Conference Co-Chair.

### Nominee for District II Director

**Dr. Amanda Harris** is a classically trained pianist who grew up in a musical family in Everett, WA. She studied piano at Northwestern University, Michigan



Amanda Harris

State University, and received her DMA from the University of Washington. She holds degrees in Piano Performance, Piano Pedagogy, and German.

Since 2015 she has been a member of the Eastside Chapter, where she quickly became involved, serving as Chapter President from 2017-2019. Dr. Harris teaches private piano lessons and theory classes at Puget Sounds Piano School in Issaquah, WA.

An experienced accompanist and adjudicator, she also performs with numerous small ensembles in Western Washington. Once live music-making returns, she hopes to get back to making music in person. In her free time, she participates in endurance sports, including running, biking, and swimming, and has completed an Ironman triathlon.



## Nominee for District VI Director



Selah Newkirk

**Selah Newkirk** has been an active member of WSMTA for 8 years. She participates in many local chapter activities, and has been president of the Lewis County Chapter for the last three years.

Selah has also been very active in many community music groups including playing violin in the Pacific Northwest Chamber Orchestra, playing clarinet in the Lewis County Community Band, singing in the Centralia College Choir, and participating in the local Messiah production. She plays and teaches piano, violin, and clarinet.

Selah loves teaching and has taught in the Lewis County area for 15 years. As well as her music interests, she also enjoys quilting, baking, making homemade soap, and playing volleyball!

## Nominee for District VI Director

**Margo Cox, NCTM**, maintains active leadership roles in her community. These roles include Walla Walla Chapter Music Artistry Program Chair, Vice President, and Immediate Past President. She is currently WSMTA District VI Director.



Margo Cox, NCTM

Margo studied with Leonard Richter at Walla Walla University and earned her BA in Music in 2003. She has been a private piano instructor for almost 19 years. Last year, she began teaching at Rogers Adventist School near her home in College Place. Some of her favorite teaching activities include duets, improvisation and group piano classes.

Professional activities include accompanying for the Walla Walla University Music Department, Whitman College Summer Dance Lab, Walla Walla Valley Academy String Department, various community musicians, and the Kennewick First United Methodist Church.

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# GIG HARBOR YOUNG ARTISTS COMPETITION

**Susan Speicher**, District III Director

Congratulations to the winners of the 2021 Gig Harbor WSMTA Young Artists Competition for Piano!

The Gig Harbor Chapter of WSMTA held a live stream Young Artist Competition for Pianists on April 24th, 2021. Students came and played for Judge Oxana Ejokina at Beachtree Studio. The community response to the live streamed music was encouraging, and the music was beautiful

### Senior Division Winners

- 1st Hannah King, student of Tanya Stambuck
- 2nd Ellah Sundell, student of Isabella Jie
- 3rd Chloe Bowyer, student of Kimberley Joe

### Junior Division Winners

- 1st Ashley Purcell, student of Suzanne Gillman
- 2nd Emma King, student of Tanya Stambuck
- 3rd Olivia Greenheck, student of Kassia Thompson
- H.M. Boen Liu, student of Patti Jamieson
- H.M. Annah Leavitt, student of Margaret Eddy

### Intermediate Division Winners

- 1st Elan Presson, student of Annette Kebsch
- 2nd Caroline Davidson, student of Kimberley Joe
- 3rd Murphy Massey-O'Hanlon, student of Connie Linjegen
- H.M. Kaya Nau, student of Margaret Eddy
- H.M. Jubileena Olson, student of Margaret Eddy

## FROM THE WHATCOM COUNTY CHAPTER

### A Farewell: The Whatcom County Chapter Celebrates 37 Years

Robert E. Lundquist, Whatcom County Chapter Charter and Founding Member

Our fiercely collegial and hardworking Chapter of music teachers will disband at the end of this year in June 2021 after 37 years of serving our community, the state organization and supporting the national organization. After this past year of pandemic challenges, plus retirements and relocations, our mighty little band has decided it's time to close the curtain on this production. This is not without some twinges of sadness, nostalgia and happy memories. We have been grateful for the opportunities provided to our Chapter by WSM TA and MTNA, and to me, personally, as a member of these organizations for 49 years.

As a Chapter, we have featured hundreds of students in our chapter recitals, and over the 23 years of our special event, Music History Day, some hundreds of students were able to explore other areas of music, and to express their creativity and musicianship in ways other than through

performance. Our Chapter programs were chosen to support, enrich and enhance our private teaching skills, and the genuine and long-lasting friendships created through our collegiality will be a life-long joy. We have enjoyed our fellow colleagues in both the Lynden and Bellingham Chapters. An excellent relationship with Western Washington University's Music Department allowed us to feature dozens of talented students, providing them valuable performance opportunities, and to enjoy faculty performances and presentations.

We are proud of students we have sent out into the world with skills as well as good memories of their lessons. Most of all we are proud to be linked, arm-in-arm, with other teachers who believe in the humanitarian value of the fine and performing arts, and music education specifically, and the long-term benefits to those who have had the opportunity to study this marvelous subject. Thank you to all our colleagues for every help, interaction, and opportunity we have had over the 37 years of our existence.

And to my colleagues around the State, it has been my great pleasure to know and work with so many of you over my 49 years of membership in WSM TA and MTNA. I met many of you as I offered workshops or masterclasses over the years, and I've been inspired and charmed by your motivation to continuously improve as teachers, and by your curiosity and interest in this wonderful subject of music.

My wife, Pat, and I have appreciated all of you! I am grateful for the opportunities and honors I have received, such as induction into the Hall of Fame, being named Teacher-Composer of the year, and later the WSM TA Commissioned Composer of the Year, and presenting my original works at the State Convention. With so many talented people in our organization, these honors are humbling, yet gratefully received.



Whatcom County Chapter Members Marianne Brudwick, Pat Lundquist, and Deborah Cole. We were so proud of the decorating we did for the 2012 WSM TA Conference Banquet!

I'm also grateful for the opportunities for my students as both composers and performers, including honors at the local, state and national level. I'm sure that these activities motivated my students to a higher level of achievement. A significant number of my students are now working in our field as composers, teachers, collaborative artists and performers. I am delighted they are contributing to making our world a better place

because of their pursuit of professional careers in music.

I wish you all the best and thank you for your friendship and collegiality over the years!

—*Robert Lundquist, Whatcom County Chapter Charter and Founding Member*

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## MUSIC ARTISTRY PROGRAM (MAP)

**Stephanie White, NCTM**, WSMTA Music Artistry Program Chair



**Stephanie White, NCTM**  
*Music Artistry Program Chair*

What a crazy year it has been! I am so grateful for the flexibility that every student, teacher and chapter have showed this year as we worked with unprecedented restrictions and requirements. Thank you for your graciousness as

we handled all the ins and outs of changing up the system this year. There were lots of pieces to fit together and it took a lot of cooperation on everyone's part.

Due to my growing family and their increased needs, I am stepping down as the WSMTA MAP chair. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time in this position, and it has been a great experience making

MAP a wonderful event for our students and teachers. **Jason Kuo** will be taking over as WSMTA MAP Chair for 2021-2022. Jason has been the Seattle Chapter MAP Chair for many years, and I know he will do an excellent job as the new WSMTA MAP Chair.



Jason Kuo

Thank you to Karen Hollenback and Krista Seely for their encouragement and support, and Mary Grant for all the time she put in to help MAP run smoothly on the fiscal side. It has been a privilege to be a part of such a wonderful group of teachers and leaders. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to be the WSMTA MAP chair.

—*Stephanie White, WSMTA MAP Chair*

# 2021 MTNA PERFORMANCE COMPETITIONS AND OUTSTANDING ARTIST PIANO COMPETITION

## November 12-14, 2021 at Central Washington University in Ellensburg

Colleen Hunter, MTNA Performance Competitions Chair for WSMTA, and Cherie Felts, OAPC (formerly OAC) Chair

### 2021 MTNA Performance Competitions

The 2021 MTNA Performance Competition will be held Friday-Sunday, November 12-14 at Central Washington University in Ellensburg, WA. Registration must be completed on-line at the MTNA website. The deadline for registration is September 15, 2021 at 12:00 P.M. PACIFIC time (3:00 P.M. EASTERN time). Competition guidelines and other information can be found online at [www.mtna.org](http://www.mtna.org) Click on Engage, and Competitions will be at the top of the list.

The Chamber Music Competitions are a two-tier competition: the preliminary round, by video submission only; and the final round, live at the MTNA National Conference. Ensembles will compete without regard to the state or division in which they live or take lessons, and seven ensembles will be selected in both the String and Wind categories from a nationwide pool of applicants to compete in the final round.

Entry information for all competitions can be found at [mtna.org](http://mtna.org). More information will be available later in the summer. If you have questions, please contact Colleen Hunter, current WSMTA-MTNA Competition Chair, at [colleenhunterpiano@gmail.com](mailto:colleenhunterpiano@gmail.com).

*Colleen Hunter, NCTM, Outgoing MTNA Performance Competitions Chair for WSMTA*  
[colleenhunterpiano@gmail.com](mailto:colleenhunterpiano@gmail.com)

*Kira Miller, NCTM, Incoming MTNA Performance Competitions Chair for WSMTA*  
[kiratheine@hotmail.com](mailto:kiratheine@hotmail.com)

### 2021 Outstanding Artist Piano Competition

Already with great anticipation, we look forward to once again being together in person for our WSMTA Competitions time of year! The CWU Recital Halls are elegant and very special for our students to perform in so I would like to encourage teachers to plan towards this time of year. I suspect many already have started with repertoire choices of course!

I had the privilege of attending the MTNA Virtual Conference in March and came away inspired and have an idea in mind for my own studio recital in June of 2022! I hope my idea might get you to thinking about it for your competition student(s). My plan is to research female composers from Baroque times to 20th Century /Contemporary Eras and see if I can put together a recital based solely on repertoire from female composers. I have spoken to some of my students, both girls and boys, and they think it would be different and fun! I have the opportunity to see every single title and composer name these past years for OAPC students and I hope to look closely at them as I'm typing Judges' Comment Pages and write in new names I have never written in before!

We are honored to have the opportunity to welcome our 2021 Judges: Dr. Jay Mauchley, NCTM, Mr. Greg Presley, NCTM, and Dr. Jody Graves, NCTM. Please watch for their photos and bios on the WSMTA Website later in the summer. Updated OAPC Guidelines are on the website and registration will open mid- August with a registration deadline mid- September. I wish for you a wonderful summer season!

*Cherie Felts, OAPC (formerly OAC) Chair*  
[jscffelts@comcast.net](mailto:jscffelts@comcast.net)

# MUSIC LITERACY PROGRAM HIGH HONORS

Students scoring 98% or above on the written theory exam portion of the Music Literacy Program receive the High Honors designation.

## BELLINGHAM CHAPTER

### TEACHER: STUDENT (LEVEL)

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**Barbara Borries:** Michael Manita (2)

**Debra Chang:** Daniel Balko (3), Diana Popov (3), Yanna Popov (3), Lev Roth (3)

**Lorraine Earle:** Amanda Buck (1), James Gastineau (2), Kjirsten Ludeman (3), Jesse Michael (5), Marie Wheat (2)

**Dorie Guidon:** Bella Everett (4), Nora Gerstl (6), Jessa Parfet (6), Noah Pitsch (3)

**Nancy Heyer:** Siri Finstuen (2), Braedon Loeffelholz (8), Alden Melanson (6), Lauryn Morison (5)

**Andrea Rackl:** Grady Boudreaux (5), Roisin Conner (10), Maya Cornwall (8), Fiona Dotson (4), Beckett Fisher (4), Rita Skelton (6), Jina Thompson (6), Jasmine Yeh (4), Liam Conner (9)

**Kagari Tanabe:** Autumn Bastian (3), Aubri Blum (5), Natalie Larson (5)

**Judy Widrig:** Ema Horja (7), Maria Horja (9)

## EDMONDS CHAPTER

### TEACHER: STUDENT (LEVEL)

---

**Brandi Bassett:** Carlos Perez (1), Rebecca Ivie (2), and Shreyas Bulusu (3)

**Frances Goei:** Oscar Clingenpeel (6) and William Shirts (6)

**Laurie McFarland:** Noah Kim (1), Samuel Hazen (2), Benjamin McFarland (2), Juhee Kim (3), and Benjamin Hazen (3).

**Mary Beth Rogers:** Ananya Kalisetti (1), Tal Kandilige (1), Nithya Padamati (1), Bavanth Rajasekar (1), Perna Juturi (2), Emily Lee (2), Nandha Mahendran (2), Auditri Das (3), Zaine Kandilige (3), Nakul Kumar (3), Shravan Kumar (3), Amogh Babu (4), Anvitha Babu (4), Harish Baskar (6).

**Roxanne Kar:** Logan Wardell (4) and Tobin Kar (9).

**Susan Hurley:** Natalie Hansen (1)

**Valerie Gathright:** Laurel Bjur (3), Hana Dao (3), and Annabelle Lai (3)

## KITSAP CHAPTER

### TEACHER: STUDENT (LEVEL)

---

**Debra Florian:** Alex Brindle (5), Camilla Rumsey (8), Clair Ross (7), Evie Manges (3), Christian Dapena (5), Julie Castillejo (5), Kail Taylor (5), Luca Castillejo (6), Scarlet Griesemer (2), Elly Soetaert (2), Myrra Pennington (4), Skylar Loudon (1), Tori Sanford (2), Wyatt Soetaert (3)

**Mary Grant:** Regan Voss (2), Penelope Hunt (3)

Megan Hennings: Eve Weikel (1), Griffin Hale (1), Ella Mandeville (3), Jonathan Cornette (2), Sebastian Mulier (2), Shaw Clifton (3)

**Dianne Johnston:** Beatrix Chapman (2), Collin Zacher (4), Emma Anunson (3), Emmanuel Moes (5), Jacob Kushner (4), Levana Harris (2), Thomas Brown (10), Isabelle Webster (2), Caleb Johnson (1), Levi Zacher (1)

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**Jane Melin:** Ariel Anderson (1), Jake Pentzer (2), Mia Simon (3), John St.Hilaire (2)

**Melanie Stroud:** Abbi Duke (2), Alyson McClung (7), Devereaux DeFransisci (2), Emma Knight (4), Jacob Alford (1), Jackson Alford (3), Johannah Campbell (3), Naomi Martin (2), Nicole Forsythe (8), Robin Gitch (5), Sam Harris (3)

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**Laurie Ketron:** Radley McNamara (2), Audrey Wang (4), Braxton Hunt (4), Rex Garner (4)

**Makiko Meyer:** Gary Fletcher (2), Ananya Kota (2), Kosei Oka (2), Poorvi Kumaran (2), Mythri Kumaran (3), Aishu Kota (6)

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**Tammy Rutgers:** Addison Blok (2), Sophie Hoksbergen (2), Jessie Wilhite (2), Georgia Rathbun (3), Kennedy Hoksbergen (3), Logan Wilhite (3), Grace Stevens (3), Vance Elton (3), Helena Lindsay (3), Paige Corkill (4), Fischer Blok (4), Kylee Jump (4), Alexander Harrison (4), Autumn Lindner (4), Porter Wilhite (4)

**Meg Krieg:** Madeline Morris (6), Isaiah Black (8)

**Sherry VandenBos:** Chloe Gomes (2), Lena VanderMey (2), Rachel Gomes (6), Minnie Lind (3)

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**Carolyn Stuart:** Livia Koh (9), Annalie Nachreiner (9)

**Janet Hubbard:** Ilana Rodriguez (2), Nancy Coffey (4)

**Karlyn Brett:** Sophia Ji (6), Michelle Chen (8)



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Alt. 2	Annika Jonson	Kay Zavislak, NCTM
H.M.	Ruth Murphy	Kay Zavislak, NCTM
H.M.	Elijah Nichols	Kim Bowman, NCTM

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H.M.	Frederick Kotunek	Tatiana Kolchanova

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H.M.	Kyle Strottmann	Marilyn Brossard/ Stephanie Hill

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Rep. 3	Mia Chen	Nino Merabishvili
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Alt. 2	Sherry Fei	Renata Shumskaya
Alt. 3	Dora Li	Sasha Starcevich
H.M.	Michelle Cao	Sasha Starcevich
H.M.	Alan Ying	Sasha Starcevich
H.M.	Andrew Shaw	Irina Akrin
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H.M.	Yool Lee	Soonja Kim
H.M.	Jiaqi Chen	Anaida Nagdyan

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Alt. 1	Nicolette Yang	Yelena Balabanova, NCTM
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H.M.	Tobin Kar	Roxanne Kar, NCTM
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# STATE NEWS

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H.M.	Edmond Hu	Ni Liu
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Rep. 2	Jason Nam	Allan Park
Rep. 3	Sanjay Akam	Randall Jackson, NCTM
Alt. 1	Aidan Zhang	Randall Jackson, NCTM
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Alt. 3	Minjae Kim	Allan Park
H.M.	Katie Shen	Tien-Yin Chen
H.M.	Hyun Yoon	Allan Park
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Alt. 2	Caleb Bilti	William Chapman Nyaho, NCTM
H.M.	Zainab Ahmed	Samantha Yeung
H.M.	Chester Pham	Sviatlana Riedel
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Alt. 4	Lucy Hawkins	Karlyn Brett
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Rep. 1	Finnegan Doherty	Rebecca M. Cook, NCTM
Alt. 1	Ansel McCord	Rebecca M. Cook, NCTM
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H.M.	Reagan Smith	Marilyn Linde, WSCTM

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Rep. 2	Lily Richards	Margie Skreen-Dickerson
Alt. 1	Blake Nelson	Oksana Ejokina, NCTM
Alt. 2	Annabelle Chang	Paul Twedt/ Kristina Henckel
H.M.	Maxwell Kao	Sherry Vogel
H.M.	Luke Leonard	Margie Skreen-Dickerson

## TRI-CITY CHAPTER

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Alt. 1	Allen Xiong	Lilia Moses
Alt. 2	Jessica Chen	Hania Dec
H.M.	Lily Deng	Holly Harty
H.M.	Grace Deng	Holly Harty
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H.M.	Elaina Sung	Leonard Richter, NCTM
H.M.	Jerry Yao	Leonard Richter, NCTM
H.M.	Ava Heinrich	Margo Cox, NCTM

## WENATCHEE VALLEY CHAPTER

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Rep. 2	Jordan Sherman	Lisa Sauer
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Alt. 2	James Byrd	Lisa Sauer
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H.M.	Samuel Neuenschwander	Kristin Neuenschwander
H.M.	Isaac Englund	Rebekah Poulson
H.M.	Ethan Webb	Kristin Neuenschwander

## YAKIMA-ELLENSBURG CHAPTER

RANK	STUDENT	TEACHER
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Alt. 1	Madelyn Cardon	Christian Buehler
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H.M.	Jillian Strother	Naomi Johnson

## VOCAL AND INSTRUMENTAL RECITALISTS

### CLARK COUNTY CHAPTER STRINGS

RANK	STUDENT	TEACHER
Rep. 1	Remy Bourgault, <i>violin</i>	Clarisse Atcherson
Alt. 1	Jessalyn Chen, <i>violin</i>	Clarisse Atcherson

### CLARK COUNTY CHAPTER ENSEMBLE

RANK	STUDENT	TEACHER
Rep. 1	Dvorak #2 Ensemble	Clarisse Atcherson
	Jessalyn Chen, <i>violin</i>	
	Jasmine Wu, <i>violin</i>	
	Camden Mills, <i>viola</i>	
	Abigail Wilson, <i>cello</i>	
	Valerie Shoker, <i>piano</i>	

### DISTRICT IV

RANK	STUDENT	TEACHER
Rep. 1	Mark Gossen, <i>voice</i>	April Duvic
Alt. 1	Sofia Lupy, <i>voice</i>	April Duvic
H.M.	Elvira Gossen, <i>voice</i>	April Duvic

### GRAYS HARBOR CHAPTER VOICE

RANK	STUDENT	TEACHER
Rep. 1	Emma Dorsch, <i>voice</i>	Joy Dorsch

### KITSAP COUNTY CHAPTER STRINGS

RANK	STUDENT	TEACHER
Rep. 1	Madelyn Alford, <i>violin</i>	Jane Melin, NCTM
Alt. 1	Liana Kurtzbein, <i>violin</i>	Melanie Kurtzbein

### KITSAP COUNTY CHAPTER VOICE

RANK	STUDENT	TEACHER
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Alt. 1	Sophie Harris, <i>voice</i>	Melanie Stroud, NCTM

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Alt. 1	Katherine Krieg, <i>violin</i>	Karen Visser

### SOUTH KING COUNTY CHAPTER VOICE

RANK	STUDENT	TEACHER
Rep. 1	Mackenzie Gillett, <i>voice</i>	Darcie Fulkerson
Alt. 1	Hannah Knauss, <i>voice</i>	Nancy Gregory
H.M.	Erin Stewart, <i>voice</i>	Darcie Fulkerson

### SNOHOMISH COUNTY CHAPTER VOICE

RANK	STUDENT	TEACHER
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Alt. 1	Grace Davis	Peggy Kurtz
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## PEDAL POINTS Hymns for Healing



**Joann Richardson, NCTM**  
*Organ Chair*

Like many of you, I am working through the excellent online sessions from this year's MTNA National Conference. Todd Frazier, director of Houston Methodist Hospital's Center for Performing Arts Medicine, presented an illuminating keynote session on how the inclusion of music and the arts as an integral part of the hospital's mission is changing

lives. Surveys of staff, patients, and the community have shown an increase in satisfaction with the hospital itself as well as a reduction in stress levels within the hospital since these programs have been implemented.

Particularly fascinating to me was how brain activation and functional connectivity is being studied with the goal of being able to rehabilitate people who have lost part of their brain function. Video footage showed a patient who had lost his speech because a stroke had damaged the frontal left brain that regulates speech, thereby making traditional speech therapy ineffective. A music therapist was brought in. The music therapist used the patient's favorite song to activate the undamaged frontal right side of the brain that regulates melody and rhythm. During music therapy, singing was used to stimulate speech and the patient was able to successfully communicate again. What was the song that allowed this patient to regain the ability to communicate again? "Amazing Grace." Hymns stay with people. Hymns heal.

# TEACHER ENRICHMENT

I have personally seen how hymns have reached people with Alzheimer's disease so severe that they could not communicate and did not even recognize their own families. In one case, a woman in this condition spontaneously sang every word of "Jesus Loves Me" when I played it as an instrumental solo during a service. In another case, a retired Naval officer with Alzheimer's disease who had been quite agitated settled down immediately when he heard the Navy hymn, "Eternal Father, Strong to Save."

Those of us who have spent a lifetime leading the singing of hymns are well-aware of the healing power of hymns. The melodies of hymns are usually well-crafted, memorable, and easy to sing. The poetry and theology of the text is full of depth and richness. During times of trial, mourning, and hardship, hymns provide edification and comfort. When I play for funerals and memorial services, the bereaved family often requests a special hymn or two. When a former student of mine had a baby that required intensive care due to a difficult delivery, she told me that mentally singing the hymns of her childhood helped her through the despair of wondering if her baby was going to survive.

So— "what's that got to do with me," you may ask? Frankly, a lot. As organists, leading the singing of hymns is one of our paramount duties. To lead the hymns well we need to prepare them well— and this takes time, effort, and attention to detail. I have a friend who tells me "I hate those quarter-note hymns." My friend is a person who is well-read and loves music, so I could not understand how this could possibly be! Beethoven's "Ode to Joy" is a "quarter-note hymn!" Then I attended a service at her church. I have heard elementary school bands play with more beautiful phrasing and musicality than this church-pianist did. By the end of the service, I, too, did not want to hear another "quarter-note" hymn. Do we prepare hymns in a way that does justice to them as miniature masterpieces? Or, do we do a last-minute run-through and hope for the best? Will members of our congregations look forward to singing the hymns we lead— or will they also develop a distaste for "quarter-note hymns."



If the members of our congregations are going to have the benefit of hymns to serve as a foundational rock of support and source of healing as they go through the inevitable trials of life, then we need to take hymn preparation seriously so that they will want to sing the hymns. For this reason, I have chosen to present a workshop on thorough hymn preparation at the WSMTA online conference this June. Please join me on Friday, June 18 at 4:15 PM for a live Zoom session titled "Artful Hymn Preparation." Hope to (virtually) see you there!

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



## INDEPENDENT MUSIC TEACHERS FORUM "Back to the Future"—Building a Studio for the Future



**RoseMarie Tamburri**  
*IMTF Chair*

World events can propel a business to reimagine its model. A major event, like the recent pandemic, requires a business to take stock of its purpose, its product or service and its relationship to the community. Any major change, whether it is the business' choice or out of its control, forces the business to reinvent how it works in the marketplace.

As we emerge from the constraints of living through a pandemic, independent music teachers face this issue in real time. Whether you teach in a home studio or in a school, you will need to make decisions about the future of your business.

### The "Big Three" Questions:

- Return to in-person teaching?
- Continue to teach virtually?
- Create a hybrid model including both methods?

The Independent Music Teachers Forum session at the WSMTA Annual Conference will be an opportunity to brainstorm with your colleagues about these issues. Join us for lively discussion and come away with some great ideas to shape your future studio. The virtual session is scheduled for Friday, June 18, from 1:00-1:45 p.m. Visit the WSMTA website [www.wsmta.org](http://www.wsmta.org) for more information and to register for the conference.

*RoseMarie Tamburri,*  
*Independent Music Teachers Forum Chair*

## VOCAL & INSTRUMENTAL NEWS

### When Life Gives You Lemons



**Jane Melin, NCTM**  
Vocal & Instrumental Chair

Because my kids liked to play the Portal video game when they were teens, I just remembered a funny quote:

*"When life gives you lemons, don't make lemonade! Make life take the lemons back! Get mad! Demand to see life's manager!"*

*"Make life rue the day it thought it could give you lemons!"*

At our chapter's "Year In Review" meeting this week, we were able to look back with a good deal of gratitude at how well we coped with the lemons that life threw at us. We engaged over 75 students in six virtual ensembles through synced video performances; produced virtual MAP events and competitions for piano, strings, voice and even percussion (!); helped almost 200 students of piano and strings complete MLP testing within our own studios instead of at our annual, cooperative Music Carnival event; and enjoyed some truly outstanding Zoom workshops at our monthly membership meetings courtesy of guest presenters from all over the country. Take that, lemons!

One of those presenters was Janet Horvath, former associate principal cello of the Minnesota Orchestra, and her topic was "A Musician Afraid of Sound." Through her own journey dealing with occupational hearing loss, she is helping other musicians protect their hearing and advocate for healthier working and learning environments. Because we reached out to Janet to speak to our chapter in January, I was prepared for high-decibel Easter service rehearsals and performances, remembering her cautions and using her recommended earplugs. I have stopped working out my technique in a small basement



"practice room" (seemed like an ideal location when I set it up!), giving my ears a break from concentrated high-pitched sound waves. I highly recommend Janet's live presentation, or check out her book and resources at her website, [playinglesshurt.com](http://playinglesshurt.com).

Through our chapter's experience producing online Music Artistry Programs for Strings, Piano and Voice, we've come up with a proven step-by-step procedure that we would like to share with others—specifically, chapters with a handful of voice, string or winds students who would like to participate in MAP but do not have the numbers for an in-person event. Contact me directly if you have questions about this; we'll be sharing more information in the fall.

I am looking forward to hearing some of your students in the Online Honors Recitals at the WSMTA Virtual Conference! Have a happy, healthy summer, and enjoy some well-deserved, fresh-squeezed lemonade!

*Jane Melin, NCTM,*  
Vocal and Instrumental Chair  
[jane@melinmusicstudio.com](mailto:jane@melinmusicstudio.com)

# DISTRICT I & II CONFERENCE

Friday, October 8 to Saturday, October 9 · Location: Zoom

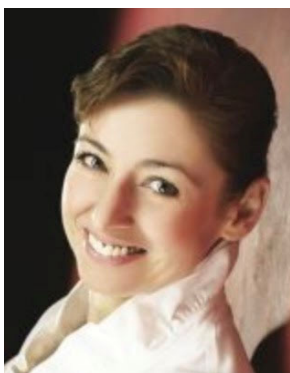
Districts I & II are proud to present two days of engaging events that will provide valuable tools and musical experiences to energize and expand your teaching!

## Schedule:

- Friday, October 8: Concert and Reception
- Saturday, October 9: Live Presentations

**Conference Fee:** \$15 WSMTA/IMTA/OMTA Members, \$35 Non-Members, \$10 Student

**Online Registration:** Opens in August



DR. YELENA BALABANOVA, NCTM  
**"Wigs, Tuxedos and Passion"**

In this dynamic presentation with many videos of her current students Dr. Yelena Balabanova will share tips on why and how we teach the repertoire from four historical style periods. The presentation will highlight proven methods for efficient practice and creating memorable performances for all levels of students from beginner to advanced.



DR. SUSAN CHAN, NCTM  
**"Contemporary Chinese Piano Repertoire for Teaching and Performing"**

In this workshop, selected contemporary Chinese piano works suitable for teaching and more advanced works suitable for performing are introduced. The featured composers consist of major Chinese-American composers Chen Yi, Zhou Long and Tan Dun, as well as Beijing-based composer Zhang Zhao.



DR. DEBORAH RAMBO SINN, NCTM  
**"My Left Hand: Elegance and Proportion"**

You've taught your students how to voice the melody. Now what? Intermediate to advanced repertoire will be used to demonstrate how the left hand influences every aspect of successful interpretation.

*Districts I and II welcome all WSMTA members. We also welcome our colleagues in Idaho and Oregon and ask them to join us for this exciting virtual conference at member rates.*

# WYOMING CONFERENCE



## ABOUT *THE CLARION*

### Submit Articles for *The Clarion*

Please send articles and accompanying graphics in JPEG, PNG, or PDF format to Samantha Yeung, WSM TA Communications Coordinator, via email: [c.samantha.yeung@gmail.com](mailto:c.samantha.yeung@gmail.com). Google Docs and Microsoft Word files are preferred.

### Advertise in *The Clarion*

Would you like to advertise your school, music event, or music product? WSM TA has both commercial and member ad rates and different sizes to choose from.

Visit <https://wsmta.org/about-wsmta/clarion-advertising> to order ad space.

#### Ad Size and Price for Commercial/Member Ads

1/8 Page	3.875 W x 2.3125 H (horizontal only)	\$35/\$25
Quarter Page	3.875 H x 4.75 H (vertical only)	\$65/\$50
Half Page	8.0 W x 4.75 H (horizontal only)	\$125/\$100
Full Page	8.5 W x 11 H (vertical only, no bleed)	\$250/\$200

- Reduced rate for six issues: purchase five ad placements, receive one free
- Ads must be prepaid by the 5th of the month preceding publication
- Finished ads must be print ready and may be submitted as PDF, JPEG, or PNG files. PDF files are preferred.

Publication dates and deadlines are listed below.

### Submission Deadlines

The submission deadline is now the 15th of the month preceding the date of publication.

<b>September</b>	August 15
<b>October/November</b>	September 15
<b>December/January</b>	November 15
<b>February/March</b>	January 15
<b>April/May</b>	March 15
<b>June/July</b>	May 15

### Upcoming Deadlines

August 15, 2021 for the September 2021 *Clarion*  
September 15, 2021 for the October/November 2021 *Clarion*



The *Clarion* is the official bulletin of the Washington State Music Teachers Association and is published six times during the school year: Sept, Oct/Nov, Dec/Jan, Feb/Mar, Apr/May, and June/July. The *Clarion* includes membership news announcements as well as pertinent news of the Music Teachers National Association.

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