



WASHINGTON STATE
MUSIC TEACHERS
ASSOCIATION

THE CLARION

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 29, 2022: Winter Education Board Meeting

January 30, 2022: Winter Board of Directors Meeting

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

June 23-25, 2022: WSMTA State Conference · Longview, WA

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Kathy Mortensen
WSMTA President

Celebrating Endings and Beginnings

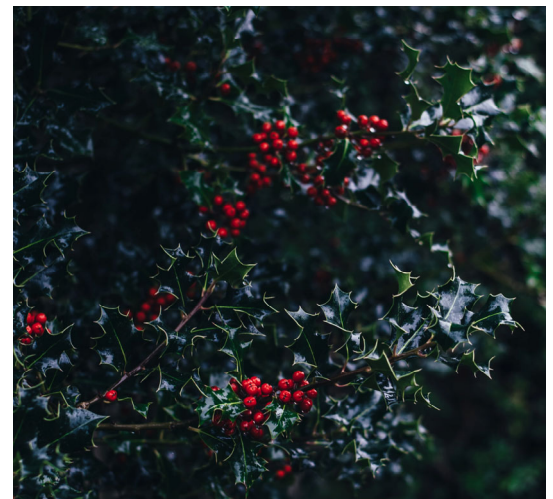
We each have our traditions celebrating the many holidays during December and January: lights and candles, moments of contemplation, music, gathering together whether in-person or virtually, preparing and eating delicious foods, and making a joyful noise.

Ending the calendar year is hectic.

There are registration deadlines for spring music performances, final decisions on MAP pieces for students, planning for upcoming national and state conferences, preparing students for Music Literacy Program events, and organizing the files for taxes.

Beginning a new year, the days longer and growing brighter, will rejuvenate my spirits. I will be brave, trying to be structured enough for success and building for the future and flexible enough for creativity and living in the moment.

I am planning to go to the MTNA Conference in Minneapolis, in person, if all goes well. I hope to see you there, whether virtually or in real life. A highlight is the Gala banquet and honoring the Foundation Fellows. Please see Peter Mack's article about WSMTA's Fellow in this issue of the Clarion.



MTNA is presenting the conference in a hybrid format. Flexibility remains a key word in our lives these days, so having a back-up plan for any in-person music event is wise.

Please be aware of both the state and your local county health directives. The pandemic isn't over. Our overriding priority is the health and safety of our teachers, visiting artists, students and their family members.

For additional insight into possible legal issues surrounding pandemic protocols, including liability caused by failure to follow state and county guidelines, the WSMTA website home page has a link to information provided by MTNA's legal counsel.

WSMTA is not in a position to mandate how every event, festival, recital, etc. in your studio, local association, or District should be run. However, WSMTA unequivocally expects that every member will follow the health directives of Washington state and your local county health department.

Let's all work together to stay safe, and healthy so we can continue to make music in the days ahead!

Celebrating endings, for they precede new beginnings, and wishing you peace, joy and continuing hope.

Yours in service,



Kathy Mortensen, WSMTA President



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WE SALUTE YOU!

Kathy Mortensen, WSMTA President

Big notes of appreciation to **Nathan Campbell**, MTNA/WSMTA Composition Competition chair; **Kira Miller**, NCTM, MTNA/WSMTA Performance Competition chair; and **Cherie Felts**, Outstanding Artist Piano Competition chair. They have carried out their detailed responsibilities with grace and compassion for the participating judges, students, teachers, and parents.

A round of applause for **Mary Grant**, NCTM, WSMTA Treasurer. Mary balances the books and does the taxes, and meets all deadlines. Her financial reports are clear and concise. And she has the wonderful ability to look at the broader picture and offer guidance. Mary has collaborated with the District Directors and WSMTA Administrative Coordinator, Carrie Kahler, to refine and improve the District Director Dashboard on our website.

District III Director, **Susan Speicher**, organized an interesting conference in November that began with a presentation by Rhoda Bernard, from Berklee College of Music. Susan led an excellent guided discussion afterwards. There were teachers from all over: Walla Walla, Tacoma, Wenatchee, etc., and we shared strategies and advice. This kind of participation is one of the things I like about the virtual format for meetings. Thank you, Susan!



Follow WSMTA on Instagram!
@WASstateMTA

www.instagram.com/wastatemta

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES

EASTSIDE CHAPTER WORKSHOP

**Monday, February 14, 2022 ·
10:00 am · Virtual**

Workshop Speaker:

Claire Wachter

See page 21 for more information.



2022 STATE CONFERENCE

**Thursday-Saturday,
June 23-25, 2022 · Lower
Columbia College ·
Longview, WA**

Guest Artist: Inna Faliks

See page 4 for more information.



SAVE THE DATE!

2022 WSMTA CONFERENCE

June 23-25, 2022 · Lower Columbia College · Longview, WA

Conference Guest Artist · Inna Faliks · www.innafaliks.com



WSMTA is thrilled to announce Inna Faliks as our 2022 Conference Guest Artist!

"Adventurous and passionate" (*The New Yorker*) Ukrainian-born American pianist Inna Faliks has made a name for herself through her commanding performances of standard piano repertoire, as well genre-bending interdisciplinary projects, and inquisitive work with contemporary composers.

Faliks is currently Professor of Piano and Head of Piano at UCLA. Critics praise her "courage to take risks, expressive intensity and technical perfection" (*General Anzeiger, Bonn*), "remarkable insight" (*Audiophile Audition*) "poetry and panoramic vision" (*Washington Post*), "riveting passion, playfulness" (*Baltimore Sun*) and "signature blend of lithe grace and raw power" (*Lucid Culture*).



CONFERENCE FACILITIES

The Rose Center for the Arts at Lower Columbia College in Longview, WA features a 525-seat performance auditorium, Bosendorfer Imperial Grand Piano, rehearsal hall, and art gallery.

MTNA FOUNDATION FELLOW

2022 Foundation Fellow Nominee: Dr. Jody Graves, NCTM

Peter Mack, NCTM, *WSMTA MTNA Foundation Chair*

WSMTA is delighted to announce that **Dr. Jody Graves** has been nominated as the Music Teachers National Association Foundation Fellow from Washington State for 2022.

This is an incredible, national honor, given to "deserving individuals who have made significant contributions to the music world, and the music teaching profession." The award will be given at the Gala Banquet of the MTNA national conference in Minneapolis, Minnesota, on Monday, March 28, 2022.

To celebrate each fellowship, charitable contributions are being given to the MTNA foundation fund. Money in this fund helps to pay for the MTNA competitions, and for student scholarships. The nomination is confirmed when \$1,500 is raised in the honoree's name. Thanks to a grant from WSMTA, and the support of some very kind individuals, we are well on the way there. But we do need your help. After the award is given, a letter detailing the names of their donors is sent to honorees, so they will be able to thank all those who supported their nomination.

To contribute in Jody's honor, click on this link:

<https://www.mtnafoundation.org/contribute/contribute-now/>

When you open the link, you will be taken to a contribution form. The first thing it asks you is for your information.

After you fill in your information, scroll down the form. You will see the sentence "Please use my gift for:" followed by a long list of endowments. Make sure to scroll past that list to the box marked 'Fellow.' **You must write "Jody Graves" in the box marked "Fellow."** That way, the gift will go towards her fellowship fund. You have to do this in order for



her to receive credit. And then, make sure to attend the Gala banquet on Monday, March 28 in Minneapolis at the national conference, to witness them being honored.

Dr. Jody Graves maintains a diverse and active performing career, and is recognized as a distinguished concert artist, teacher of piano and workshop presenter. Her recital engagements as a solo artist and collaborative pianist take her across the United States and abroad. She has performed and given master classes and workshops in Europe, Asia, South America, and many parts of the Middle East where she has served as a Cultural Ambassador for the U.S. State Department and where one of her

tours there was named the #1 cultural exchange for that year by the State Department. Jody is also the pianist with the nationally acclaimed Sapphire Trio and they have been featured guest artists at the National MTNA conference in Seattle, and the International Clarinet Festivals in Tokyo, Los Angeles, Assisi, Italy, Baton Rouge, LA, Madrid, Spain and Medellin, Colombia. In October 2019 Jody was inducted into the Steinway Piano Teacher Hall of Fame in New York City.

Jody has been a presenter and Keynote Speaker at the National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy, and a presenter, performer and guest artist at numerous State and National MTNA conferences. She has authored articles for the American Music Teacher and Clavier magazines, and has served on the editorial board for the AMT e-journal and currently serves as the NW Divisional Director. Recently Jody developed her popular "Artists' Retreat" seminar titled "The Heart of Performance" addressing everything from the issues of stage

delivery, teaching and performing with intention, to living a balanced and joyful artistic life. She is especially interested in promoting concert art music, creating unique and contemporary ways to foster a collaborative experience between artist and listener, and is dedicated to maintaining the life of music in our schools and culture. Jody is recognized for her creative ability to engage the audience during her concerts with anecdotes, historical perspectives and humor, and the press has referred to her as "Victoria Borge." She holds a Doctorate Degree in Piano Performance and Literature from the Eastman School of Music and is currently Professor of Piano Performance Studies and Graduate Program Director at Eastern Washington University.

Thank you so much for your support of this hero who has given so much to WSMTA!

*Peter Mack, NCTM
WSMTA MTNA Foundation Chair*



Dr. Jody Graves performing at the 2017 WSMTA State Conference at Shoreline Community College in Shoreline, WA.

MUSIC ARTISTRY PROGRAM (MAP)

Time to Register for MAP!



Jason Kuo
WSMTA MAP Chair

It's that busy time of year of MAP registration! I am excited that so many Chapter MAP Chairs are working so hard behind the scenes to make things happen. Let's make 2022 the Year of Return to Normalcy!

MAP Events Overview

I am pleased to announce that as of mid-November we have 42 MAP events being planned this year, including a first statewide MAP for organ, and a first statewide MAP for woodwind. About 75% of the events are being planned as in-person.

WSMTA Office Closed Dec 23-Jan 3

I would like to urge all teachers planning to participate in MAP to register early, or at least test out your WSMTA website login early in December. While we are always glad to assist with account lock-out, WSMTA office will be closed for the holidays between December 23 and January 3. We will not be able to respond to your emails until January 4.

Safe In-Person Event

There are two things you can do right now to help ensure that our MAP events are as safe as they can be:

1. **Time for Your COVID Booster Shot.** The latest research shows that Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine efficacy drops to 43%, Moderna to 58%, and J&J to 13% after 6 months. It's time to recharge your immunity. You can book a vaccine appointment closest to you by visiting: <https://vaccinelocator.doh.wa.gov>.
2. **Remind Your Students to Get Vaccinated.** Young students (5 or older) can now receive vaccines. While we do not yet know if there will be a vaccine mandate from school districts, some private schools have already started offering vaccine drives in school. You will feel a lot better teaching in-person knowing that your students are fully vaccinated.

Jason Kuo
WSMTA Music Artistry Program Chair

MUSIC LITERACY PROGRAM (MLP)

Online Registration Update



Melanie Stroud, NCTM
WSMTA MLP Chair

What a busy fall it has been for my Music Literacy Program team! Mary Grant has created an amazing video (<https://youtu.be/EoxMYCpto1c>) for chapter chairs, instructing you in how to use our new online registration process. Jane Melin has uploaded all tests and documents to our Google Drive, so they can be accessed digitally each year with a secure password. Carrie Kahler has put our registration forms and payment system online. So much amazing work has been put in by these lovely ladies, and I am so thankful for each one!

Does your chapter participate in MLP? If so, these are all treats you have to look forward to! Mary Grant and I recently had the pleasure of meeting with RoseMarie Tamburri and Thom Stuart from the Seattle Chapter via Zoom, to nail down their individual preferences for the registration form. It was such a lovely time of sharing and excitement for the MLP. Feel free to contact me at melaniejoymusic96@gmail.com if you have

questions, or want help setting up your chapter's registration form!

Does your chapter NOT participate in MLP, but you'd like to try it out as a teacher? Then I happily invite you to participate in the Kitsap Chapter's event. We will host a live and online hybrid event this year, and we are happy to welcome any teachers who would like to join and enter their students. If you'd like to bring them to our live event, please contact me prior to registration with numbers and if you're able to volunteer. Our live event will be April 23rd at Gateway Church in Poulsbo.

As Thom Stuart says, "I'll see YOU on the road to Music Literacy!"

Melanie Stroud, NCTM
WSMTA Music Literacy Program Chair

VOCAL & INSTRUMENTAL (V&I)

Upcoming Events for Vocal and Instrumental Students



Jane Melin, NCTM
WSMTA V&I Chair

A. Woodwind Virtual MAP Confirmed!

Visiting Artist Pamela Butler Ryker will work with Woodwind students via Zoom on Saturday, March 12, 2022. This online event is for Woodwind students who do not have a local chapter MAP event to participate in. We have a small number of teachers participating in this pilot program so far, but it is possible to include more! Please invite your Woodwind-teaching friends to consider participating, in one of two ways:

- 1) Non-WSMTA-member teachers may sign students up for a MAP event if they pay a \$125 teacher fee.
- 2) New WSMTA members who join by January 10, 2022 may sign their students up without paying the non-member fee.

We will accommodate as many students as possible under the time constraints of our Visiting Artist. Our registration deadline will be January 15. Please invite non-member teachers to contact me or MAP Chair Jason Kuo ASAP if they have questions or want to be included in the event.

B. Music Literacy Program for Strings and More

'Tis the season for preparing students for Music Literacy Program tests, hosted in different formats by different chapters around the state. Here in Kitsap County, we are looking forward to producing our annual Music Carnival as a LIVE event once again, instead of testing in our studios as we have done for the past two years!

This is just a reminder that MLP tests in Rhythm, Ear Training, Technique, Sight Reading and Theory are available in varying degrees for bowed string instruments, and 100% available (all levels, all subjects) for violin. Draft tests for Treble Winds are being reviewed now, and if possible, they will also be made available this spring.

I would be happy to answer any questions you may have about the content of and preparation for the String tests. If there are several people interested, we can set up a Zoom session to meet-up and discuss.

Happy Holidays!

Jane Melin, NCTM, WSMTA V&I Chair
jane@melinmusicstudio.com

YOUNG COMPOSERS PROJECT 2021-2022

Frances Goei, NCTM and Susan Hurley, Young Composers Project Co-Chairs

The WSMTA Young Composers Project will open for submissions on December 1, 2021. The closing date for submissions will be **February 22, 2022**.

We are fortunate to have six wonderful judges and one alternate judge:

- Rick Asher (Composer and Retired Professor of Music from Edmonds Community College)
- Dr. Gregory Youtz (Composer and Professor of Music at PLU)
- Dr. Terry McQuikin (Composer and Retired Professor of Music from University of Oregon)
- Dr. Robert Spittal (Composer and Professor of Music at Gonzaga University)
- Dr. Bruce Hamilton (Composer and Professor of Music at Western Washington University)

- Dr. Susan Hurley (Composer and Piano Teacher)
- Keva Vaughn-McMorrow (Composer, Piano Teacher and will serve as Alternate Judge)

Pictures and bios of these judges can be found on the WSMTA website under the Young Composers Project. The holidays are a wonderful time to have students as well as teachers work on composition. Remember there is a teacher category this year. Happy composing and wishing everyone a wonderful holiday and looking forward to some great submissions to the Young Composers Project.

*Frances Goei, NCTM
Susan Hurley
Young Composers Project Co-Chairs*

**2022
YOUNG
COMPOSERS
PROJECT**

ENTRIES DUE
FEBRUARY 22, 2022

OPEN TO GRADES K-12,
COLLEGIATE (UP TO
AGE 26), AND
TEACHERS

MORE INFO
WWW.WSMTA.ORG

2021 STATE MTNA PERFORMANCE COMPETITION IN REVIEW

Kira Miller, NCTM, Washington State MTNA Performance Competition Chair

Washington State’s second online MTNA Performance Competition was successfully completed! Congratulations to each performer, teacher and family represented! We are proud of each one of you!

Due to the ongoing pandemic it was decided to keep the event virtual this year. Video submissions were due to the WSMTA website November 2, with winners announced November 17. Carrie Kahler, WSMTA Administrative Coordinator, received and coordinated these submissions which were then distributed to the judges by the area coordinators Karen Scholten, Junior Division, Mary Kaye Owen, Senior Division, and Laura Curtis, Young Artist Division.

This online team was efficient, flexible and wonderful communicators with students, teachers and judges. In addition, Linda Stump, MTNA Competition Chair, as well as other national office staff, provided invaluable counsel as we navigated what is still a very new path for us all.

Appreciation needs to be extended to Kathy Mortensen, WSMTA President, Colleen Hunter, WSMTA President-elect, Mary Grant, WSMTA

Treasurer, Samantha Yeung, WSMTA Communications Coordinator, and Cherie Felts, OAPC Chair.

Though this is the second year the competition was held virtually it was not without its challenges. Through the hard work of the students, parents, teachers, chairs, judges, and certainly many others the event was a resounding success. The judges have commented on the level of playing and how thrilled they were to hear the performances. The program booklet with the list of repertoire will soon be available on the state website.

There were 114 entries in 12 divisions:

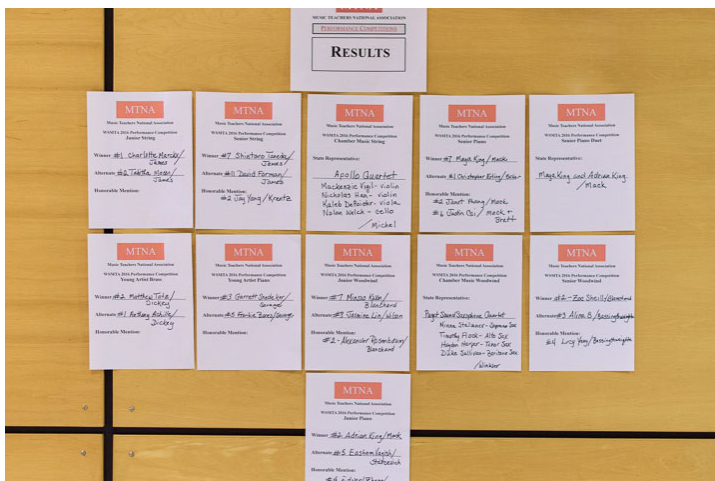
- Piano: Junior, Senior, Senior Duet, Young Artist
- String (violin, viola, cello, string bass): Junior, Senior, Young Artist (violin only)
- Woodwind: Junior (flute, clarinet, oboe), Senior (flute, clarinet, saxophone), Young Artist (flute, saxophone)
- Brass: Young Artist (horn, euphonium, tuba)
- Vocal: Senior (soprano, mezzo-soprano, tenor)

The state winners will now prepare videos for the Northwest Division Competition round with Division winners and Representatives performing in the online competition at the virtual MTNA National Conference in March 2022.

Judges for the 2021 Competition are listed below. Their bios can be found on the WSMTA website. We appreciate their diligence, expertise, and willingness to assist us with this competition.

Piano Division:

- Dr. Jessica Schroeder
- Dr. Isabella Jie, University of Puget Sound
- Dr. Yerin Kim, Central Washington University



String Division:

- Grant Donnellan, violin, Western Washington University
- Dr. Michelle Rahn, viola, Central Washington University
- John Marshall, cello, Eastern Washington University

Woodwind Division:

- Dr. T. Andre Feagin, conductor, Central Washington University

Brass Division:

- Dr. Gustavo Camacho, horn, Western Washington University

Vocal Division:

- Dr. Matthew Carey, baritone, University of Alabama

Composition Division:

- Kaley Eaton, Cornish College of the Arts
- Ryan Hare, Washington State University
- Rob Hutchinson, University of Puget Sound

Kira Miller, NCTM, MTNA Performance Competition Chair for WSMTA

Nathan Campbell, MTNA Composition Competition Chair for WSMTA

2021 STATE MTNA COMPOSITION COMPETITION RESULTS

Elementary Composition

Winner

Lenka Dzunic, student of Lesley Sommer

Honorable Mention

Raymond Zhou, student of Tatiana Sharapova

Junior Composition

Winner

Eli Antony, student of Sharon Van Valin

Honorable Mention

Jeanne Park, student of Sharon Van Valin

Senior Composition

Winner

Kevin Nam, student of Sharon Van Valin

Honorable Mentions

Nathan Paek, student of Sharon Van Valin

Elisa Johnson, student of Heather Howland

Noah Weinrich, student of Andrea Rackl



2021 STATE MTNA PERFORMANCE COMPETITION RESULTS

Junior Piano

Winner

Daniel Beal, student of Barbara Miller

Alternate

David Gatien, student of Nancy Jang

Honorable Mentions

Kyle Yeung, student of Sasha Starcevich
Avah Girges, student of Barbara Miller
Emily Qi, student of Ekaterina Melkamini

Senior Piano

Winner

Eashan Vagish, student of Rufus Choi

Alternate

August Baik, student of Nino Merabishvili

Honorable Mention

Dora Chen, student of Sasha Starcevich
Julian Frank, student of John Pickett

Senior Piano Duet

Winner

Sarah Girges and Avah Girges, students of Barbara Miller

Alternate

Emily Qi and Olivia Qi, students of Ekaterina Melkamini

Young Artist Piano

Winner

Christopher Richardson, student of Jeffrey Kahane

Alternate

Leah Terrill, student of Yoon Wha Roh

Honorable Mention

Evan Minsk, student of Jeffrey Savage and Peter Mack

Junior String

Winner

Tokuji Miyasaka, violin, student of Simon James

Alternate

Seohyun Hwang, violin, student of Ron Patterson

Honorable Mention

Rachel Jung, violin, student of Simon James

Senior String

Winner

Zoe Lonsinger, violin, student of Simon James

Alternate

William Johnson, cello, student of Leslie Marckx

Honorable Mention

Annie Song, violin, student of Leonid Keylin

Young Artist String

Winner

Emma Bruce, violin, student of Carrie Michel

Alternate

Bethany Olson, violin, student of Carrie Michel

Junior Woodwind

Winner

Max Zhang, flute, student of Sarah Basingthwaighte

Alternate

Xuanke Zhao, clarinet, student of Joanne Corr

Honorable Mention

Antonia Elliot, oboe, student of Julie Wade

Senior Woodwind

Winner

Johnathan Lee, saxophone, student of Fred Winkler

Alternate

Grace Wang, flute, student of Sarah Basingthwaighte



Young Artist Woodwind

Winner

Stasia Kalsa, flute, student of Sophia Tegar

Alternate

Kevin Melendez, flute, student of Sophia Tegar

Senior Voice

Winner

Elena Skirgaudas, soprano, student of Laura Shepherd

Alternate

Qiwu Yin, tenor, student of Shan Han

Honorable Mention

Olivia Qi, mezzo-soprano, student of Shan Han

Young Artist Brass

Winner

Turner Gray, tuba, student of Christopher Dickey

Alternate

Joshua Thomson, euphonium, student of Christopher Dickey

Honorable Mention

Bryson Harding, tuba, student of Christopher Dickey

2021 OUTSTANDING ARTIST PIANO COMPETITION

Cherie Felts, Outstanding Artist Piano Competition (OAPC) Chair

The Outstanding Artist Piano Competition was a virtual event for the 2nd year in a row. It was a full three day event with 41 in performance out of the 48 that registered in September. There were 17 students entered in the Junior Division and 24 students in the Senior Division, representing 18 teachers.

I would like to thank **Krista Seely**, Chair of the WSMTA Education Board, for her encouragement, and **Carrie Kahler**, WSMTA Administrative Coordinator, for her immense help with registrations and organizing each students' YouTube performance submissions. In addition, this year we enlisted the help of WSMTA's Technology Chair, **Ryan Worswick**, to check every video to make sure they were correctly labeled and correctly submitted so our Judges could view them. Thank you also to **Jani Peterson, NCTM** (Program Repertoire Research and Formatting) for extra research with titles, opus numbers and clarifications needed to make the printed program as accurate as possible and for formatting it as well. To **Kathy Mortensen**, our WSMTA President, my thanks for all of her support and encouragement and help with signage of Participant Certificates and Awards. I also owe a debt of gratitude to **Samantha Yeung** for her encouragement and publishing the competition results quickly as we moved through the weekend days.

A huge thank you is extended to our 2021 OAPC Judges: **Dr. Jody Graves, NCTM** (Eastern Washington University), **Mr. Greg Presley, NCTM** (Gonzaga University), and **Dr. Jay Mauchley, NCTM** (Professor Emeritus of Piano / University of Idaho). It was a pleasure to work with them!

I also want to acknowledge a very valued member of the OAPC Team and that person is **Mary Jo Wright, NCTM**. In 2015, she worked as part of the Monitor team. A little while after that November,



she and I chatted and she decided she would like to step in as our Fulltime Monitor starting in 2016. She thought she could listen to all the performances alongside the Judges and so she did. That first year, she had major surgery scheduled for 2-3 days following the close of competition but she powered through! She worked as our Monitor for 4 years (three in Ellensburg and one in Spokane). She planned on 2020 and also this year, but being virtual, did not get to help us. She and the Judges had great interaction every year and they often remarked how wonderful she was keeping us all on track and on schedule. Mary Jo has recently retired from her teaching and she and her husband are moving in these retirement years to Arizona. She is a dear friend and colleague and will be missed!

Cherie Felts, OAPC Chair



2021 OUTSTANDING ARTIST PIANO COMPETITION (OAPC) RESULTS

Junior Division (age 11-14)

First Place

Leonardo Zhou, student of Irina Akhrin

Second Place

Eli Antony, student of Michi North

Third Place

Qingshan Li, student of Dr. Renato Fabbro

Unranked Honorable Mentions

Avery Pun, student of Ni Liu
Ashley Zong, student of Alexandra Tsirkel
Ava Zhang, student of Dr. Ivona Kaminska Bowlby
Stephanie Cheng, student of Ni Liu
Todd Miao, student of Ekaterina Melkamini

Senior Division (age 15-18)

First Place

Daniel Jung, student of Donna Bender

Second Place

Ella Sumanaseni, student of Donna Bender

Third Place

Nolan Tu, student of Renato Fabbro

Unranked Honorable Mentions

Zhirui Jerry Li, student of Peter Mack
Sunny Wang, student of Renato Fabbro
Rebecca Sun, student of Ivona Kaminska Bowlby
Eric Yuze Ma, students of Peter Mack and Ivona Kaminska Bowlby
Penelope Keep, student of Judith Widrig
Steven Wu, student of Renato Fabbro
Susan Hong, student of Renato Fabbro

WSMTA COMMISSIONED COMPOSER OF THE YEAR 2023 Call for Composers!



Louise Nedela
CCOY Chair

There are changes in the WSMTA Commissioned Composer of the Year Project. Please see the Call for Composers for 2023 below, which is a precursor to acquaint composers of the latest information and give adequate time to prepare submissions. Please note the submission dates.

2023 Call for Composers: Submissions Accepted February 1-April 15, 2022

To encourage the creation of new music by American composers, the Music Teachers National Association (MTNA) annually assists its State Associations with a Composer Commissioning Program. Each State commissioned composition is digitally submitted to MTNA for selection of the National Distinguished Composer of the Year, which is presented in concert and receives \$5000. The composer retains ownership of the composition.

In conjunction with MTNA, the Washington State Music Teachers Association (WSMTA) is seeking candidates for the 2023 Commissioned Composer of the Year (CCOY) to prepare a new composition according to the requirements below. The selected commissioned composer will receive \$2500 when the composition is premiered at the June 2023 WSMTA state conference.

The selected State Commissioned Composer (as well as the selected National Distinguished Composer) will be responsible for financial and logistics regarding performers, rehearsals, and performance of the selected composition at the conference, and also provide copies for archives. To keep composer's costs to a minimum, it is

suggested that the piece be for one or two performers.

WSMTA 2023 Commissioned Composition Requirements:

- For Advanced or Professional level for any instrument or voice
- Composer must reside in Washington State
- Membership in WSMTA or MTNA is not required
- Previously commissioned composers and current employees of WSMTA are ineligible to apply

For further contract responsibilities, rights of a commissioned composer, and other information contact Louise Nedela.

To be considered, please submit the following by **April 15, 2022** to Louise Nedela:

1. Two of your original compositions that you have in your catalog that you feel will be representative of your compositional ability for this project; format—pdf scores and mp3 recordings; (arrangements not accepted)
2. A short bio
3. Contact information
4. A synopsis of your intended project that adheres to the requirements

The selected composer will subsequently prepare a new composition as stated above.

Please feel free to contact Louise Nedela with any questions:

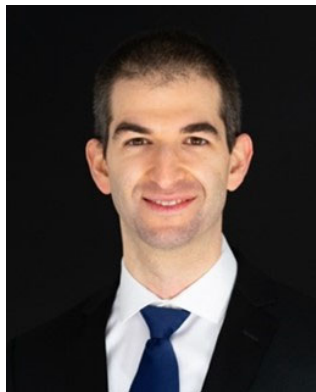
louisenedela@gmail.com
360-448-8572

Updates on 2021 and 2022 Commissioned Composers of the Year



2021 Commissioned Composer of the Year: Dawn Sonntag

WSMTA has submitted the commissioned work by Dawn Sonntag to MTNA for consideration for the MTNA Distinguished Composer of the Year. We wish her success! We enjoyed hearing her three-movement Sonata for Violin at the WSMTA Conference this past June, performed by violinist Svend Ronning, with Dawn at the piano.



2022 Commissioned Composer of the Year: Shlomo Farber

We look forward to hearing Shlomo Farber's commissioned work for cello and piano at the June 2022 WSMTA conference. More information about the


2022 CCOY will be available closer to the performance date.




Attention Past CCOYs! We would like to include your commissioned work on the WSMTA website. Please submit an mp3 or a link for your piece to Louise Nedela.

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HALL OF FAME

Call for Nominations for WSM TA Hall of Fame



Chris VanBuskirk
Hall of Fame Chair

It is soon to be the holiday season and we will all be celebrating Thanksgiving and Christmas, with its message of gratitude, family traditions, friendships, and hope for peace in our nation and the world. In many ways it seems as though our lights have dimmed as teachers trying as best we can to teach with all the mandates that have been put in place due to Covid 19, as parents yearning to be with our loving families, and as friends needing to see our dear colleagues who give us so much joy and support.

In this season of gratitude I am reminded of the words of Albert Schweitzer: "At times our own light goes out but is rekindled by a spark from another person. Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within us."

Keep the flame alive, as you go through this winter, and as you think of dedicated teachers who have kept your chapters alive and thriving, innovative leaders at the local or state level who share their enthusiasm and expertise, adjudicators who transformed your teaching, and clinicians who inspired you to strive for the next level. There are worthy people in every chapter for nomination into the WSM TA Hall of Fame. The WSM TA website has all the information you need for getting started. Three letters of recommendation are requested and can be from your chapter president, a colleague,

and even a parent, present or former student. The deadline for entries is **January 5, 2022** and can be sent to me at classickeys@comcast.net. I ask that you let me know if you are planning to start working on your packet, and/or have any questions.

This year, for your convenience, the Hall of Fame application and information can be totally filled out on the WSMTA.org website. Click the "For Teachers" tab, scroll down and select "Hall of Fame", click the "Hall of Fame Application Form" and fill out all appropriate information. If you would rather fill out the application by hand, then click the "PDF Application," print out both pages, fill them out and mail them in to me, with all required criteria and letters of reference before the deadline. Again, if you have any questions, I am more than glad to assist you.

With warm wishes for a joyful holiday season,

Chris VanBuskirk
WSMTA Hall of Fame Chair

Please return the completed application to:

Chris VanBuskirk, WSM TA Hall of Fame Chair
2502 N Cedar St., Tacoma, WA 98406
classickeys@comcast.net

Deadline for 2021-2022 Nominees is January 5, 2022.

CHAPTER OF THE YEAR

Spotlight on Bellingham Chapter 2021 Chapter of the Year

Harriet West, *Chapter of the Year Chair*

This year's Clarion articles will introduce you to Chapters which have been honored as a WSMTA Chapter of the Year. Bellingham Chapter was selected as the 2021 recipient, receives a \$500 check and becomes the 10th chapter to be honored. Below is an article written by Bellingham Chapter President David Zagelow.

WSMTA Bellingham Chapter

Our purpose is to promote the art of music and its appreciation among the people of this community; and to provide opportunities for the advancement of musical knowledge through educational activities.

Our chapter held its first meeting on May 27, 1922 with 11 members. We are excited to be marking our 100th year anniversary next May!

The \$200 increase in the award this year was a great incentive for us to put in the extra work to try and win. We hope to be able to use the funds for either a chapter workshop or a great party—or maybe both combined! We have missed gathering and seeing each other during COVID.

From our inception, we have averaged around 30 members. Although we are a relatively small mid-sized chapter, we continue to have a significant presence in our community with associations we belong to, or volunteer for. We have a varied and talented group! Many members regularly perform in the community in the symphony, orchestras, and self-formed individual/small groups, both instrumental and vocal. We also have a strong presence in offering music education in the community. A survey of our members revealed a tremendous amount of community collaboration and involvement.



We are privileged to have a great connection with Western Washington University faculty members who have joined our chapter. We started a collegiate chapter and a number of members have participated in pedagogy class observations. This has led to some long-time mentorship connections and has helped to bring in younger members to our chapter.

We have 12 advertising sponsors from the community who add to our chapter income which has helped to keep us healthy and able to continue to provide great programming for our students with confidence.

The diversity of our involvement in both our local, state and national organization in all areas has covered a wide gamut from leadership roles to participation in WSMTA and MTNA competitions

STATE NEWS

and scholarship/foundation funds. We are definitely a well-rounded group of many interests and talents!

We have supported each other and worked together to continue with in-person MAP and conducting MLP during the last two challenging years. We helped each other to continue to teach online and navigate through health concerns in keeping our students and ourselves safe. Although this has been a tough time for many, our chapter

has remained strong and has come together to continue our mission.

We are looking forward to being an active presence in Bellingham for the next 100 years!

Will your chapter considering applying for the 2022 Chapter of the Year Award? Information can be found at www.wsmta.org under For Teachers > Chapter of the Year.

CHAPTER NEWS

EASTSIDE CHAPTER WORKSHOP

Monday, February 14, 2022 · 10:00 am to 12:15 pm · Virtual Workshop



CLAIRE WACHTER

WORKSHOP ON ROBERT SCHUMANN'S
ALBUM FOR THE YOUNG (1848)

Workshop Fee: Free for Eastside Chapter Members / \$10 for Non-Eastside Chapter Members

Online Registration: <https://eastsidemta.org/eastside-mta-workshops/>

In this session, Claire will discuss and play examples from her new edition of Robert Schumann's *Album for the Young*—Schumann's remarkable and incredibly imaginative pedagogical masterwork.

In this edition, Claire has restored the original multi-media conception for the Album, including illustrations by Ludwig Richter as well as comments, observations and writings by Schumann and Clara Wieck that have the power to illuminate our interpretation of these pieces.

This performance edition introduces a completely new pedagogical order for the pieces in the Album, which are organized in a progressively more difficult sequence. This edition has new fingerings and hand-distributions to make the difficult sections much easier to play. All the original German titles, tempo and character indications have been translated into English with the specific goal of clarifying Schumann's intentions.

PEDAL POINTS

Music as a Gift of Love



Joann Richardson, NCTM
Organ Chair

“Work lovingly done is the secret of all order and happiness.”—Pierre-Auguste Renoir

“What the world needs now is love, sweet love.”—Hal David

“All you need is love, love. Love is all you need.”—John Lennon

Our world needs a reset. I don’t know about you, but I’m pretty tired of the constant arguing that has been going on. With all of the yelling and screaming about this and that, we seem to forget that we share a common humanity. What we need is more understanding, more caring, more empathy—more love.

It is an act of love to share great music with those who walk the earth with us. When performing music for others, take a moment to look at the faces in the audience. Most likely, you will not see liberals or conservatives, Republicans or Democrats. You will see fellow human beings who will all at some point experience the same joys and trials that are common to this earthly life. The music you play may have been written hundreds of years ago, yet people respond to it because it expresses emotions that have been common to humanity from the beginning of human existence. Or, as Louis Armstrong said, “Music is life itself.” Lovingly perform music as a gift to those who will hear it.

It is an act of love to teach other human beings the skills necessary to express themselves through music. My attitude towards teaching changed dramatically when I realized that my primary purpose was to love my students as human beings, albeit within the parameters of a professional relationship. I don’t teach music. I teach human beings. I can’t imagine a more loving type of life’s

work than the work of sharing the gift of music with others. Teach lovingly and it will not only change your students— it will change you.

So, as you find order and happiness in your work lovingly done and as you spread love to the world through your gift of music, I leave you with the words of William Shakespeare: “If music be the food of love, play on.”

Update on Music Artistry Program (MAP) for Organ:

- Registration Deadline: January 15, 2022
- Date(s) for Organ MAP: March 18, 2022 (March 19, if needed)
- Procedure: Live online through Zoom or option of written comments only. Pre-recorded performance required in case of technical difficulty or scheduling issues. Teacher will receive scheduling information and instructions for uploading materials once registered for MAP through the WSMTA website.
- Visiting Artist: Dr. Jill Schneider
- Eligibility: Organ students of any level (beginners are welcome, as are adult students)
- Questions: Joann Richardson, WSMTA Chair for Organ; organistjoann@gmail.com

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



INDEPENDENT MUSIC TEACHERS FORUM

Ode to Joy!



RoseMarie Tamburri
IMTF Chair

Recently, our Seattle chapter President, Katie Levine, wrote in our chapter newsletter about the joy of teaching. It's an appropriate theme for all of us independent music teachers to embrace—at all times but especially during the winter holidays and the new calendar year.

How many of us have taught "Ode to Joy," the glorious theme of the symphonic chorale of Beethoven's Ninth? How relevant are the words, written by the poet Friedrich Schiller in 1785, to a modern audience?



*"Joy, beautiful spark of divinity,
Daughter of Elysium,
We enter, drunk with fire,
Heavenly, thy sanctuary!
Your magics join again
What custom strictly divided;
All people become brothers,
Where your gentle wing abides."*

More than 200 years later, the words still resonate with modern listeners. Regardless of personal religious belief, the message seems to be that we share the common bond of humanity; and despite our differences, we are all recipients of the joy we feel through the magic of music.

This is the time for all of us to take stock of the value we bring, the joy we bring to the lives of so many children and adults—no matter the instrument or the age of the student. We teach more than notes and rhythm. We facilitate how to access inner joy, how to speak a universal language, how to transcend day-to-day stressors and find meaning and magic.

A Music Lesson = Whatever fee you charge;
The Joy of Music = Priceless.

So, my message for 2022 is: **Teach. Enjoy. Thrive.**

Until next time,

*RoseMarie Tamburri, Chair
Independent Music Teacher Forum*

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. 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.

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

Upcoming Deadlines

January 15, 2022 for the February/March 2022 *Clarion*
March 15, 2022 for the April/May 2022 *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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