



WASHINGTON STATE
MUSIC TEACHERS
ASSOCIATION

THE CLARION

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 16-17, 2022: WSMTA Leadership Seminar · Yakima, WA

March 25-29, 2023: MTNA Conference · Reno, Nevada

June 26-28, 2023: WSMTA State Conference · Winthrop, WA

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Kathy Mortensen
WSMTA President

2022 WSMTA State Conference: We Did It!

Dear WSMTA Members,

We did it! We had our first in-person conference in 3 years! It was wonderful to catch up with all those able to come to Lower Columbia College in Longview. Hearing the music live was a real pleasure. Thank you to the many volunteers, presenters, organizers, and our guest artist, Inna Faliks.

As many of you know, shortly before the conference there was disagreement from some members about our COVID attendance policy. Our conference attendance policy required everyone attending the conference to show either a proof of vaccination or a negative COVID test result (PCR or NAAT) taken within 48 hours. Mask use was optional. I thought I would take a moment to clarify WSMTA's stance, as some members felt excluded by this policy.

Our 2022 conference attendance policy was crafted as a courtesy to protect those who are particularly vulnerable to COVID: those who are immunocompromised or with underlying medical conditions; those who are elderly; those with elderly parents, or young children or grandchildren at home.



We all needed to do our part to prevent the conference from becoming a super spreader event. That began with each one of us taking on personal responsibility to be aware of our own COVID status and proactively protect others from being unwittingly infected.

COVID is highly contagious even before the infected person experiences any symptoms. Vaccination helps to reduce the severity of the disease, but it is not bullet-proof. In catching up with many of you at the conference, we came to realize that the number of members personally impacted by COVID in the past two years was far higher than we had expected. While some recovered well, some are still struggling with lingering conditions such as fatigue and other neurological conditions.

Was imposing an attendance policy in violation of our organization's bylaws? WSMTA Board of Directors does not think so. While bylaws list some basic membership rights, such as the right to attend meetings, the right to hold office, and the right to enter students in Association programs, they do not state how these membership rights are implemented. Bylaws are supplemented with guidelines and policies. For example, the right to hold office does not mean that everyone can become an officeholder without complying with an election procedure; the right to enter students in Association programs does not mean a teacher gets to enter an entire studio in the Honors Recital without going through a selection process.

Our attendance policy did not require anyone to file any claim of religious or medical reasons to be exempt from showing proof of vaccination. Everyone was exempt from having to show a proof of vaccination as long as they could show a negative COVID test result, taken within 48 hours.



WSMTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT

Kathy Mortensen

PRESIDENT ELECT

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Krista Seely

WSMTA EDUCATION BOARD

EDUCATION BOARD CHAIR

Krista Seely

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Karen Hollenback, NCTM

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Kathy Mortensen

Jason Kuo

Carrie Kahler

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Our attendance policy was supported by WA State's Department of Health. Washington State's Department of Health's current Guidance for Non-Healthcare Businesses and Organizations stated:

(<https://doh.wa.gov/sites/default/files/legacy/Documents/1600/coronavirus//420-350-NonHealthCareBusiness.pdf>)


"Businesses and organizations may request proof of COVID-19 vaccination from customers. Businesses are encouraged to require documentation of COVID-19 vaccination of customers through an official record, as opposed to personal attestation or an honor system. Verification of vaccination status is not a violation of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Privacy Rule."

For those unable to attend the conference in person or not willing to comply with the attendance policy, we did offer a virtual option at a much lower registration fee. The Virtual Conference included highlights of the conference, livestreams of our invited artist Inna Faliks' presentation, masterclass, and concert. It also included a Virtual Swag Bag, a digital copy of the conference booklet, and access to the Virtual Exhibit Hall.

We believe we made every reasonable accommodation to encourage conference registration. We all have to make choices. At WSMTA, we strive to put our fellow teachers' welfare ahead of our personal interests. Everyone on the Board of Directors is your fellow teacher volunteering their time to make sure we can provide the programs that benefit our teachers. We are not faceless bureaucrats. We are not politicians. We might have five minutes between our own students to answer urgent emails. We try to be courteous and respectful to every teacher in our association. And moving forward, we hope that we can all put aside the differences, see each other beyond political labels, and proactively look out for each other's welfare—*that* is the real value of our association.

I look forward to visiting with you in the 2022-2023 school year.

Wishing You a Happy Summer,



Kathy Mortensen
WSMTA President



WSMTA LEADERSHIP SEMINAR

*Save the Date for Leadership
Seminar 2022!*

**September 17-18, 2022
Saturday Noon to Sunday
Noon**

Hilton Garden Inn, Yakima, WA

Chapter Presidents, MAP Chairs, MLP Chairs, and any in state or local leadership roles are encouraged to share in this special time for WSMTA. Join us for conversation, sharing, learning, and planning.

More information coming this summer.

Colleen Hunter, NCTM
Leadership Seminar Chair



WE SALUTE YOU!

Kathy Mortensen, WSMTA President

Thank you to the 2021-2022 Board of Directors, the Education Board, and the Committee Chairs, from Arts Advocacy to Young Composers Project who continued with enthusiasm to keep the vision and goals of WSMTA alive and functioning well. We are grateful for all WSMTA Chapter Presidents and Officers who faithfully keep their local association running smoothly.

We will miss those who are leaving the Board of Directors: Brandi Bassett, District I Director; and Deborah Rambo Sinn, NCTM, District VII Director. Thank you for your wonderful District Conferences, for your participation and help on committees, and your service to WSMTA.

Cherie Felts has been the most excellent Flowers Chair for the state conference for many, many years. She knows the wholesale businesses. She can determine if a flower is past its prime. She is an expert at removing thorns and keeping hundreds of roses looking beautiful and ready to hand out at recitals. This year's conference was the last one Cherie was in charge of Flowers. She created a fabulous display for the stage, and gorgeous bouquets for the guest artist, the commissioned composer and his performers, and the chamber concert performers. On behalf of all the recipients of roses over the years, Thank You, Cherie! Brava!

A round of applause for all the volunteers who organized and presented and helped at our state conference at Lower Columbia College. These include: Laura Curtis; Carol Cross, NCTM; Carrie Kahler; Kira Miller, NCTM; Colleen Hunter, NCTM; Samantha Yeung; Louise Nedela, NCTM; Jane Melin, NCTM; Dorothy Bauer; Suzanne Grant; Lois Rhoads; Sophia Pereyra-Johnson; Ryan Worswick; Karen Hollenback, NCTM; and Jani Stoehr, NCTM.

Thank you!

Kathy Mortensen
WSMTA President

2023 WSMTA CONFERENCE

Save the Date!

**Monday-Wednesday,
June 26-28, 2023**

Sun Mountain Lodge in
Winthrop, WA

Guest Artist: Wei-Han Wu



A native of Kaohsiung City, Taiwan, pianist **Wei-Han Wu** received his Bachelor's degree from Northwestern University and Master's degrees from both University of Michigan and Northwestern.

He is the recipient of the Distinguished Achievement Award from the Juilliard School, the Felicia Montealegre Fellowship from the Tanglewood Music Center, and the Collaborative Piano Fellowship from Bard College. He has performed in venues such as the Chicago Cultural Center, the Kennedy Center, and Carnegie's Weill Recital Hall.



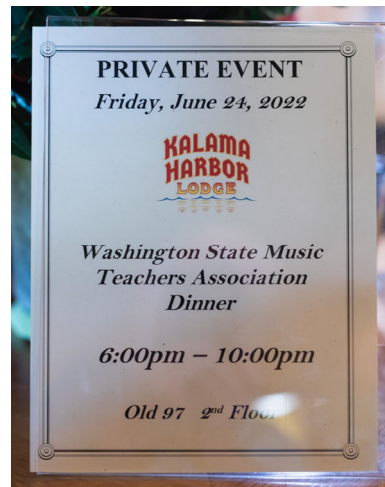
CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

2022 WSM TA CONFERENCE

REFLECT, REKINDLE, AND RECHARGE

June 23-25, 2022 · Lower Columbia College · Longview, WA
Conference Guest Artist · Inna Faliks · www.innafaliks.com

It was a wonderful time of reconnecting with others, enjoying each other's company, and learning from one another at the 2022 WSM TA Conference!



THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING THE 2022 WSM TA CONFERENCE!

Save the Date for the 2023 WSM TA Conference!
Monday-Wednesday, June 26-28, 2023 at Sun Mountain Lodge in Winthrop, WA

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

Bravo to our State Honors Recitalists and Young Composers Project (YCP) Winners!



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)

Lorraine Earle: Nazeem Afridi (2), Lyla Chapman (3)

Nancy Heyer: Gabriel Harrison (3), Lila Unfried (4), Lelly Moore (5)

Andrea Rackl: Charles Anderson (3), Caleb Knapp (5), Frances Porteous (7), Jina Thompson (7), Ian Pelot (9)

Kaitlyn Ronstadt: Annie Widman (1)

Judy Widrig: Ema Horja (7), Maria Horja (8)

CLARK COUNTY CHAPTER

TEACHER: STUDENT (LEVEL)

Cinda Redman: Veronica Woo (1), Nova Oh (1), Ira Reddy (2), Gabriella Kubrakov (3), Darren Liau (3), Daniel Liu (5), Tina Lai (6)

CLARKSTON-LEWISTON CHAPTER

TEACHER: STUDENT (LEVEL)

Tracy Henriod: Aletheia Cole (5)

Lorinda Bisso: Reuben James-Mykal (2)

EDMONDS CHAPTER

TEACHER: STUDENT (LEVEL)

Brandi Bassett: Jane Bassett (2), Frank Yu (5), Nicole Ivie (6)

Valerie Gathright: Amelia Lucas (1), Ada Pembroke (1), Penelope Funakoshi (3), Annabelle Dau (5)

Frances Goei, NCTM: Madeline Buker (1), Colin Ip (1), Inga Marston (1), Isabel Marston (1), Khloe Chen (2), Paysen Hwang (2), Annie Marston (2), Caleb Buker (3), Alaina Buker (4), Julia Dysings (7), William Shirts (7)

Jennie Holland: Dina Samuel (2), Diya Jyoti (3), Mira Jyoti (3)

Susan Hurley: Natalie Hansen (3)

Roxanne Kar, NCTM: Jozef Kocaj (4), Ian Kinsella (6), Tobin Kar (10)

Mariya Koshkina: Seth Zeon (4), Kathryn Holland (5)

Laurie McFarland: Asha Rahl (1), Noah Kim (2), Sam Hazen (3), Aden Hitchcock (3), Tressa Knight (3), Samuel Lambert (3), Danny Buchholz (4), Ben Hazen (4), Juhee Kim (4), Elowen Martin (4), Quinn Martin (4), Mabel Hume (5), Zoe Vance (5), Echo Vance (7)

KITSAP COUNTY CHAPTER

TEACHER: STUDENT (LEVEL)

Debra Florian: Charlotte Benkert (5), Luca Castillejo (7), Christian Dapena (6), Scarlet Griesemer (2), Clair Ross (8), Elly Soetaert (3), Wyatt Soetaert (4)

Mary Grant: Emmett Bates (1)

Megan Hennings: Ali Fugere (3), Bella Fugere (4), Katrina Tirohn (1), Aria Tirohn (1), Bea Tionquiao (1), Daisy Cleverdon (4), Elli Seaman (4), George Lovely (3), Emmersyn Davis (1), Jonathan Cornette (2), Emmersyn Davis (1), Jonathan Cornette (2), Claire Lamar (4), Brileigh Davis (3), Sebastian Mulier (4)

Diane Johnston: Emma Anunson (4), Hanna Anunson (2), Caleb Johnson (2), Jaacob Kushner (6), Alan Schultz (3), Quinny Stuart (6), Jack Webster (2), Paia Woo-Ching (3)
Jane Melin: Rylie Carr (1), Aaron Longley (4), Gianna St.Hilaire (1), John St.Hilaire (3), John Webb (8), Emery Wolfe (1)

Farida Roberts: Thomas Bearden (3), Aerin Gaughan (1), Nataly Martin (1), Theresa Santiago (3)

Melanie Stroud: Elliana Campbell (6), Nicole Forsythe (9), Emma Knight (5), Hanna Knight (5),

Rachel Doornink: Ava Kitchoff (2), Joel Kitchoff (1), Suraj Siddaiah (3), Nathan Watt (1)

Krista Seely: Lana Evans (3), Sofia Kochevar (3), Amara Lum (3), Akari Shulman (1), Rylan Shulman (2), Reed Wierzbicki (1)

Laura Meredith: James Meredith (1)

Melanie Kurtzbein: Ruth Hoard (1), Liana Kurtzbein (5), Hailey Vaught (5)

Carmen Larson: Kimberley Martin (4), Annika Meadows (1), Adalee Ward (4)

Diane Layton: Andrew Gizzi (2), Elijah King (3), Naomi King (4), George Ladd (3), Delaina Sawyers (2), Roger Shi (6), Gabe Watson (4)

LAKE WASHINGTON CHAPTER

TEACHER: STUDENT (LEVEL)

Makiko Meyer: Lucas Lee (1), Nozomi Maebayashi (1), Vihaan Prakash (1), Mana Kanazu (2), Mia Lee (5), Keshav Mohan (6)

Laurie Ketron: Radley McNamara (3), Nathan Johnson (4), Kevin Chang (6)

Tomoko Ishihara: Lucien Leeman (2), Joanna Shyu (2), Kara Nishiguchi (3)

LYNDEN CHAPTER

TEACHER: STUDENT (LEVEL)

Karen Scholten: Lucy Brown (1), Tamsen Kottelenberg (1), Andie Lowe (3), Chloe Pelleboer (3), Elias Kobes (4), Jayme Veldman (4), Kayella Kottelenberg (5)

Bethany Hilt: Cole Hilt (1), Lane VanderWoude (3)

Alissa Veeneman: James DenHartog (2), Cooper Morris (2), Paige Veeneman (3)

Sherry VandenBos: Brysen Korthuis (2), Ava Tyler (4)

Karen Visser: Elena Stuart (2), Mia VandenBos (4), Owen Visser (4), Clara Rogers (7)

Amy Vandenberg: Nathaniel Vandenberg (2),

Emily Bailey: Emily Young (2)

Meg Krieg: Lucy Stuart (1)

OKANOGAN COUNTY CHAPTER

TEACHER: STUDENT (LEVEL)

Roz Nau, NCTM: Amber Eppel (4), Jaden Skelton (1)

Joan Smith: Nathaniel Engelking (2), Gabby Blidden (2)

Kathleen Christensen: Max Robeck (3)

PULLMAN CHAPTER

TEACHER: STUDENT (LEVEL)

Michelle Mielke: NCTM: Colin Liu (2), Georgia Colvig (6)

Jill Schneider, NCTM: Kaitlin Chi (2)

Jani Stoehr, NCTM: Agnes Becker (1), Faye Pearson (1), Beatrice Nicol (3)

SNOHOMISH COUNTY CHAPTER

TEACHER: STUDENT (LEVEL)

Tien-yin Chen: Luke Hu (1), Carmen Lin (3), Lauren Chang (4), Sophia Hu (5), Peyton Chen (5)

Sarah Hall: Adi Duvvuri (4), Logan Schultz (5)

Patti McElroy: Lily Kanekeberg (3)

Amy Roffle-Kouyeas: Peyton Robens (1)

Maria Sier: Kelvin Fuller (3)

Jan Toy: Adam Sieber (1)

SOUTH KING COUNTY CHAPTER

TEACHER: STUDENT (LEVEL)

Joanne Corr: Shyam Ramesh (3), Evan Coulthurst (5)

Julie Swienty, NCTM: Felix Lam (1), Rose Myers (1), Azure Myers (3), Cami Cutler (5), Brooke Myers (5)

Mary Kaye Owen, NCTM: Logan Chmielewski (1), Carlos Harman (1), Mark Pittenger (1), Shayla Williams (1), Kyle Yi (1), Timber Griffiths (2), Alex Cerdana (3), Alyssa Shull (3), Owen Cerdana (4), Brady Lindel (8)

WSMTA STATE RECITALISTS

BELLINGHAM CHAPTER

RANK	STUDENT	TEACHER
Rep. 1	Penelope Keep	Judy Widrig
Rep. 2	Eligh Nichols	Kim Bowman
Alt. 1	Maria Horja	Judy Widrig
Alt. 2	Annia Jonson	Kay Zavislak
H.M.	Ana Horja	Kay Zavislak
H.M.	Ema Horja	Judy Widrig
H.M.	Ruth Skelton	Andrea Rackl
H.M.	Dex Hong	Judy Widrig
H.M.	Chelsea Fortna	Nancy Heyer
H.M.	Weston Block	Kay Zavislak

CLARK COUNTY CHAPTER—PIANO

RANK	STUDENT	TEACHER
Rep. 1	Ryan Koenninger	Kathy Charles
Alt. 1	Daniel Liu	Cinda Redman
H.M.	Eva Okhotina	Elena Wheaton
H.M.	Emily Liu	Cinda Redman
H.M.	Riley Jun	Angela Tsai

CLARK COUNTY CHAPTER—VOICE

RANK	STUDENT	TEACHER
Rep. 1	Mackenna Cobb	Linda Appert
Alt. 1	Maxwell Hilton	Linda Appert

CLARK COUNTY CHAPTER—STRING

RANK	STUDENT	TEACHER
Rep. 1	Ryan Chen	Tatiana Kolchanova
Alt. 1	Alexis Ma	Lily Burton
H.M.	Wyatt Howard	Jessica Kelly
H.M.	Norah Howard	Jessica Kelly

CLARKSTON/LEWISTON CHAPTER

RANK	STUDENT	TEACHER
Rep. 1	Brayden Schultz	Lori Germer, NCTM
Alt. 1	Dane Neace	Tracy Henriod
H.M.	Mia Bunce	Lori Germer, NCTM

EASTSIDE CHAPTER

RANK	STUDENT	TEACHER
Rep. 1	Leonardo Zhou	Irina Akhrin
Rep. 2	David Gatien	Nancy Jang, NCTM
Rep. 3	Daniel Jung	Donna Bender
Rep. 4	Nicole Wang	Nino Merabishvili
Alt. 1	Ella Sumanaseni	Donna Bender
Alt. 2	Priyanka Thiagarajan	Renata Shumskaya
Alt. 3	Isa Lau	Renata Shumskaya
Alt. 4	Jasmine Yi	Renata Shumskaya
H.M.	Noah Casper	Nancy Jang
H.M.	August Baik	Nino Merabishvili
H.M.	Jeffrey Zhao	Maria Maltseva
H.M.	Katelyn Denq	Renata Shumskaya
H.M.	Benjamin Yu	Nino Merabishvili
H.M.	Gianna Chau	Renata Shumskaya
H.M.	Eleanor Wang	Nancy Jang
H.M.	Michelle Cao	Sasha Starceвич

EDMONDS CHAPTER—VOICE

RANK	STUDENT	TEACHER
Rep. 1	Talia Bernstein	Shih-Yi Kuan
Alt. 1	Rosie O'Malley-Knudson	Shih-Yi Kuan
H.M.	Ruban Sai Meiyalagan	Shih-Yi Kuan

EDMONDS CHAPTER—PIANO

RANK	STUDENT	TEACHER
Rep. 1	Courtney Tam	Yelena Balabanova
Rep. 2	Lucas Tam	Yelena Balabanova
Alt. 1	Eason Chen	Shih-Yi Kuan
Alt. 2	Andrew Jiang	Yelena Balabanova
H.M.	Naomi Elsing	Mona Elsing
H.M.	Seth Zeon	Mariya Koshkina
H.M.	Ian Kinsella	Roxanne Kar

GRAYS HARBOR CHAPTER

RANK	STUDENT	TEACHER
Rep. 1	Savannah Farnell	Erica Hollen
Alt. 1	Isaiah Johnson	Erica Hollen

KITSAP COUNTY CHAPTER—PIANO

RANK	STUDENT	TEACHER
Rep. 1	Alec Rodriguez	Irene Bowling, NCTM
Rep. 2	Damaris Harvey	Irene Bowling, NCTM
Alt. 1	Codelia Loyd	Georgene Corey

KITSAP COUNTY CHAPTER—STRING

RANK	STUDENT	TEACHER
Rep. 1	Hailey Vaught	Melanie Kurtzbein
Rep. 2	Madelyn Alford	Jane Melin, NCTM
Alt. 1	Corinne Sy	Jane Melin, NCTM
Alt. 2	Coral Marsh	Jane Melin, NCTM

KITSAP COUNTY CHAPTER—VOICE

RANK	STUDENT	TEACHER
Rep. 1	Rachel Martin	Melanie Stroud, NCTM
Alt. 1	Alyson McClung	Melanie Stroud NCTM

LAKE WASHINGTON CHAPTER

RANK	STUDENT	TEACHER
Rep. 1	Arjun Nagamangalam	Nicole Kim, NCTM

LEWIS COUNTY CHAPTER

RANK	STUDENT	TEACHER
Rep. 1	Grace Grimes	Rosetta Patterson
Alt. 1	Rosa Anzelini	Judy Meyers
H.M.	David Sexsmith	Kay Morton

LYNDEN COUNTY CHAPTER—PIANO

RANK	STUDENT	TEACHER
Rep. 1	Clara Rogers	Meg Krieg, NCTM
Alt. 1	Lucille Decker	Jan Brink

WSMTA STATE RECITALISTS

LYNDEN COUNTY CHAPTER—STRING

RANK	STUDENT	TEACHER
Rep. 1	Katherine Krieg	Karen Visser
Alt. 1	Clara Rogers	Karen Visser

MOSES LAKE—CENTRAL BASIN CHAPTER

RANK	STUDENT	TEACHER
Rep. 1	Landon Murray	Preta Laughlin, NCTM
Alt. 1	Canyen Whitaker	Preta Laughlin, NCTM
H.M.	Kaelyn Maasen	Preta Laughlin, NCTM
H.M.	Lydia Jensen	Gracie Payne

MT. RAINIER CHAPTER

RANK	STUDENT	TEACHER
Rep. 1	Kaya Smith	Lark Powers, NCTM
Alt. 1	Samuel Abraham	Mimi Jacobson

OKANOGAN CHAPTER

RANK	STUDENT	TEACHER
Rep. 1	Jessica Heinlen	Lois Rhoads

OLYMPIA CHAPTER

RANK	STUDENT	TEACHER
Rep. 1	Lara Choi	Amy Yang
Rep. 2	Chloe Song	Ramona Allen
Alt. 1	Gabriel Ong	Ramona Allen
Alt. 2	Gracie Park	Amy Yang
H.M.	Ella Cao	Amy Yang
H.M.	Phoebe Goh	Amy Yang
H.M.	Ila Velupula	Amy Yang

PULLMAN CHAPTER

RANK	STUDENT	TEACHER
Rep. 1	Ryan Holder	Roger McVey, NCTM
Alt. 1	George Burke	Yoon-Wha Roh, NCTM
H.M.	Kevin Gu	Michelle Mielke, NCTM

SEATTLE CHAPTER

RANK	STUDENT	TEACHER
Rep. 1	Jonathan Zheng	Peter Mack, NCTM
Rep. 2	Nicholas Grote	Ni Liu
Rep. 3	Jessie Wu	Ni Liu
Alt. 1	Daniella Tsang	Ni Liu/Peter Mack, NCTM
Alt. 2	Arabelle Grote	Ni Liu/Peter Mack, NCTM
Alt. 3	Estelle Kim	Joan Schoepflin, NCTM
H.M.	Kandice Chen	Ni Liu
H.M.	Kevin Yao Zhuang	Ni Liu
H.M.	Dana Wang	Ni Liu
H.M.	Amber Peng	Joan Schoepflin, NCTM
H.M.	Hadassah Ho	Peter Mack, NCTM
H.M.	Alexandra Deschenes	Ni Liu
H.M.	Constantina Tsang	Ni Liu/Peter Mack, NCTM
H.M.	Estelle Kim	Joan Schoepflin, NCTM

SKAGIT VALLEY CHAPTER

RANK	STUDENT	TEACHER
Rep. 1	Alexica Garcia	Sue VanNortwick
Alt. 1	Jens Otterness	Sue VanNortwick
H.M.	Silvia Ellis	Sue VanNortwick
H.M.	Caleb Hawkins	Sue VanNortwick

SNOHOMISH COUNTY CHAPTER—VOICE

RANK	STUDENT	TEACHER
Rep. 1	Grace Davis	Peggy Billman Krutz
Alt. 1	Sophia Giordan	Peggy Billman Krutz

SNOHOMISH COUNTY CHAPTER—PIANO

RANK	STUDENT	TEACHER
Rep. 1	Jason Nam	Allan Park
Rep. 2	Patrick Yoon	Allan Park
Rep. 3	Aidan Zhang	Randy Jackson, NCTM
Alt. 1	Kaitlyn Gia Lee	Allan Park
Alt. 2	Jimmy Huang	Yelena Balabanova
Alt. 3	Alvin Lee	Allan Park
H.M.	Meredith Nam	Allan Park
H.M.	Ruohan Huang	Yelena Balabanova
H.M.	Caiden Kim	Allan Park

SOUTH KING COUNTY CHAPTER—PIANO

RANK	STUDENT	TEACHER
Rep. 1	John Chamberlain	Julie Swienty, NCTM
Rep. 2	Chester Pham	Sviatlana Riedel
Alt. 1	Jaden Nguyen	Samantha Yeung
Alt. 2	Mark Davydenko	Sviatlana Riedel
H.M.	Elijah Allred	Andrea Hildebrandt
H.M.	Victoria Maeng	Sviatlana Riedel
H.M.	Kylen Guest	Samantha Yeung
H.M.	Thomas Huynh	Sviatlana Riedel
H.M.	Alia Uffenorde	Julie Swienty, NCTM
H.M.	Katy Nguyen	Samantha Yeung
H.M.	Phoebe Jane Allred	Andrea Hildebrandt
H.M.	Rosie Brooks	Julie Swienty, NCTM
H.M.	Maiya Clouse	Samantha Yeung

SOUTH KING COUNTY CHAPTER—VOICE

RANK	STUDENT	TEACHER
Rep. 1	Guthrie Bettinger	Darcie Fulkerson
Alt. 1	Kaylyn Yager	Darcie Fulkerson
H.M.	Ava Valentin	Nancy Gregory

SPOKANE CHAPTER

RANK	STUDENT	TEACHER
Rep. 1	Jennifer Tian	Barbara Miller
Rep. 2	Tom Li	Barbara Miller
Rep. 3	Daniel Beal	Barbara Miller
Rep. 4	Jeslyn Zhu Cai	Karlynn Brett
Alt. 1	Andrew Nikulin	Barbara Miller
Alt. 2	Theo Goodwin	Barbara Miller
Alt. 3	Sophia Ji	Karlynn Brett
Alt. 4	Veronica Nikulin	Barbara Miller
H.M.	Maximus Raugust	Barbara Miller
H.M.	Ari Izon	Barbara Miller

WSMTA STATE RECITALISTS

SUNN VALLEY CHAPTER—WIND

RANK	STUDENT	TEACHER
Rep. 1	Winnie Chen	Rebecca M Cook, NTCM

SUNN VALLEY CHAPTER—STRING

RANK	STUDENT	TEACHER
Rep. 1	Paris Diefenbach	Sarah Wise

SUNN VALLEY CHAPTER—PIANO

RANK	STUDENT	TEACHER
Rep. 1	Reagan Smith	Marilyn Linde, WSCTM
Alt. 1	Ansel McCord	Rebecca M Cook, NCTM
H.M.	Eli Yorgesen	Rebecca M Cook, NCTM
H.M.	Carolyn Whiting	Rebecca M Cook, NCTM

TACOMA CHAPTER

RANK	STUDENT	TEACHER
Rep. 1	Enzo Zhao	Oksana Ejokina
Rep. 2	Avah Girges	Oksana Ejokina
Alt. 1	Blake Nelson	Oksana Ejokina
Alt. 2	Lily Richards	Margie Skreen-Dickerson
H.M.	Luke Leonard	Margie Skreen-Dickerson

TRI-CITY CHAPTER

RANK	STUDENT	TEACHER
Rep. 1	Louis Qin	Lilia Moses
Rep. 2	Nathan Hu	Holly Harty
Alt. 1	Allen Xiong	Lilia Moses
Alt. 2	Ethan Shan	Lilia Moses
H.M.	Ben Porter	Benjamin Walley
H.M.	Karissa Nakamura	Holly Harty
H.M.	Sana Schiffen	Patti Robertson
H.M.	Jessica Chen	Hania Dec

WALLA WALLA CHAPTER

RANK	STUDENT	TEACHER
Rep. 1	Brielle Bryant	Leonard Richter, NCTM
Alt. 1	Sofia Glaus	Wafia Kinne
H.M.	Asalyn Zierenberg	Wafia Kinne

WASHINGTON STATE WOODWINDS

RANK	STUDENT	TEACHER
Rep. 1	Michelle Longley	Diane Layton, NCTM

WENATCHEE VALLEY

RANK	STUDENT	TEACHER
Rep. 1	Kai Bromiley	Lisa Sauer
Rep. 2	Isaac England	Rebekah Poulson
Alt. 1	Miah Davis	Rebekah Poulson
Alt. 2	Jesse Hix	Rebekah Poulson
H.M.	Brinley Anantamula	Lisa Sauer
H.M.	Camille Child	Lisa Sauer
H.M.	Morgan Neuenschwander	Kristin Neuenschwander
H.M.	Samuel Neuenschwander	Kristin Neuenschwander
H.M.	James Byrd	Lisa Sauer
H.M.	Kai Mueller	Jill Johnson
H.M.	Ian Eifert	Jill Johnson
H.M.	Matthew Jobe	Jill Johnson

YAKIMA-ELLENSBURG

RANK	STUDENT	TEACHER
Rep. 1	Cate Wassell	Carol Cross, NCTM
Alt. 1	Oakley Afualo	Danene Knudsen
H.M.	Berlin Rasmussen	Danene Knudsen

WSMTA HALL OF FAME

Chris VanBuskirk, WSMTA Hall of Fame Chair

The WSMTA Hall of Fame was established in 2002, to honor teachers for outstanding musicianship, dedication and leadership, which have significantly contributed to the growth and development of music education in the State of Washington. The WSMTA Hall of Fame was established in 2002, to honor teachers for outstanding musicianship, dedication and leadership, which have significantly contributed to the growth and development of music education not only in the State of Washington, but also the Puyallup Valley area. Since then, 71 teachers have been inducted into the Hall of Fame. They were all nominated by their colleagues, former teachers, friends, and students.



Diane Zimmermann
2022 Hall of Fame Inductee

I am proud to add our 2022 recipient, **Diane Zimmermann**, to this prestigious list of Hall of Fame Inductees. Diane graduated from PLU with a Music Education Degree.

Diane has also been on her church staff for 40 years as the church organist and for 27 years as the Choir Director.

She has been involved in WSMTA since 1982, and joined the Puyallup Valley Chapter in 1986, jumping right in, taking up any task that needed to be done. She said, "When I joined Puyallup Valley Chapter, it

felt like I came home. Where everyone worked and participated, making this chapter a true working chapter. We all became real friends, working together."

She has served the Puyallup Valley chapter, doing behind-the-scenes, as well as in-front-of-the-scenes work for many years. She has been the chapter President since 2016, besides holding other positions. She was the "Sunshine" chair for many years as well.

Besides being a piano teacher, Diane has been involved in the community through music over several decades. She is a unique teacher, leader, mentor and colleague, being sincere, generous, flexible, having a great sense of humor and always interested in all those around her. Diane is well deserving of this recognition and honor. Thank you for your noble and influential example! Congratulations!

I would like to encourage each WSMTA Chapter to consider sending in any nominations for our 2023 Hall of Fame recipients. We have moved up the deadline for submitting applications to December 10th, allowing the committee a little more time to process. Start now in gathering everything you would need to send in. This is a prestigious honor.

See the Hall of Fame application online for more details.

CHAPTER OF THE YEAR

Spotlight on 2016 Chapter of the Year, Kitsap County Chapter

Harriet West, *Chapter of the Year Chair*

This *Clarion* issue introduces you to Kitsap County Chapter. Kitsap was the eighth chapter to receive the award in 2016. The article was written by Kitsap County Chapter member, Melanie Stroud.

WSMTA Kitsap County Chapter

Kitsap Music Teachers Association has been around since 1949, serving the Kitsap County community and outlying areas with teachers offering lessons in piano, strings, voice, flute, guitar and other specialties. Our membership is on the larger side, and we are blessed to have around 20 of those who are regularly active with our events and meetings.

We were blessed to host WSMTA's 100th Anniversary Conference back in 2015, and our chapter has many members who also have served or are serving on the state and even national levels. Some of our favorite events are our annual Music Carnival where we host our chapter Music Literacy Program exams amidst a fun Carnival-themed environment with games and ribbons.



Kitsap County Chapter Monster Concert



The Kitsap County Chapter accepts the Chapter of the Year Award in 2016

We have held several "Monster Concerts" over the years, our most recent one included a new composition that we commissioned from Kevin Olson, who flew up to conduct the premiere! We are so thankful to be back to some in-person events this year, and are busy planning for future possibilities.

We were so thankful for the honorarium, and we highly recommend applying for the Chapter of the Year! Our honorarium helped us to put on a movie-themed monster concert in the spring of 2017, complete with costumes, a fog machine, and Darth Vader! KMTA is a joy to be a part of, and I cannot imagine my music teaching career or life without it!

—Melanie Stroud

MUSIC ARTISTRY PROGRAM (MAP)

Preparing for Your MAP Event



Jason Kuo
WSMTA MAP Chair

For those MAP Chairs thinking ahead, I have updated our Visiting Artist List. There were five new Visiting Artists approved in January. I expect that we will be approving a couple more Visiting Artists in June. To access the list, please log on the WSMTA website and look under your Member Dashboard.

This is my first year running MAP from the WSMTA perspective. Previously my experience was limited to running MAP events at the chapter level. Now that I have seen the income and expenditure from both sides, I thought I would quickly share some tips on how to run MAP events in a financially sustainable way. First, let's walk through the income and expenses, so you can understand all of the pieces of this complex puzzle.

INCOME:

The income of each MAP event is from the student and teacher registration fees. You can find that number at the top of the MAP Teacher Summary Report for your Chapter. Clearly, as a MAP Chair the best way to boost the income is to encourage participation: introducing new members to MAP, increasing the program visibility with regular announcements at Chapter meetings and in newsletters, for example.

EXPENDITURES:

1. **Visiting Artist Pay.** Visiting Artists are paid at \$43/hr ("assessment time", referring to all of the scheduled time except lunches).
2. **Visiting Artist Travel Expense.** Travel Expense consists of lodging, meals and mileage (or

flight). Each chapter has a cap on the hotel rate per day depending on the location. Meal reimbursement is limited to \$35/day. Mileage (which may also include flights, rental cars, and other transportation related expenses) is capped at \$300 per event for each Visiting Artist.

3. **Chapter Reimbursement of venue/tuning.** This is capped at \$100 per 8 hours of assessment time.
4. **Credit Card transaction fees.** This is roughly about 3% of the registration fees.

Visiting Artist Pay and Visiting Artist Travel Expense are the major portion of the WSMTA MAP expenses and they are prioritized in payment. That means I pay those first, then whatever is leftover may be distributed as Chapter Reimbursement.

What happens if the registration fees could not cover the Visiting Artist Pay and Travel Expense? This does happen, especially in some smaller events. In that case, we may not be able to reimburse the chapters for the venue/tuning expenses. That means the chapters will need to absorb those expenses. Most chapters collect a separate Student Chapter Fee or Teacher Chapter Fee for that reason.

Travel expense should be a major consideration in your decision of Visiting Artist. We encourage chapters to hire Visiting Artists from outside of their area, but there is a limit on what makes sense. A good rule of thumb is that the travel expense should be about 25%-35% of Visiting Artist's pay. If a Visiting Artist is coming from really far and needs flight and rental car, their assignment should not be so short that their travel expense is about the same as their pay. Short term assignments ideally should be filled by Visiting Artists closer to you. Chapters can further help to curb the travel expenses by offering to pick up the Visiting Artist from the airport and ask teachers to drive between the lodging to the venue.

When you review the Financial Report by Chapter, which will be sent to you once we close the book on the 2022 MAP, if your Visiting Artist's travel expense is about the same as their pay, please try to control the cost of your chapter or anticipate the deficit by collecting a Student Chapter Fee or Teacher Chapter Fee event next year.

Now, as promised in the previous issue, our first Visiting Artist interview is with Margee Webster. The interview was conducted by Suzanne Grant, Seattle Chapter's MAP Co-Chair. MAP Chairs: If you would like to help with interviewing your favorite Visiting Artist, please email me at jason.kuo@gmail.com.

INTERVIEW WITH MARGEE WEBSTER BY SUZANNE GRANT



Margee Webster, NCTM
WSMETA Visiting Artist

My favorite part of organizing our Music Artistry Program is meeting and getting to know the incredibly talented Visiting Artists that come to work with our students. They always impress me with their expertise and skill, but also, and most importantly, with the compassion and patience that they bring to their work with our students. Even when working on

Zoom, they are able to reach through the screen with empathy and are able to gently push our students to understand how to achieve higher levels of artistry and musicianship in their playing.

Margee Webster was one of these amazing Visiting Artists. Margee has taught piano for more than 30 years and recently retired from Gonzaga University. Her piano studies began at age 6, culminating with a Summa cum Laude Bachelor of Arts Degree in Music/Piano Pedagogy from Whitworth University.

As an active member of MTNA and WSMETA, she has served in many capacities including WSMETA President, WSMETA Education Board Chair, MTNA Competitions Washington State Chair and Chapter President for the Spokane MTA. She recently received the MTNA Foundation Fellow Award.

I asked Margee to answer some questions for this article.

How long have you been a Visiting Artist?

Since 2005. My students have been involved in Auditions, then Adjudications, and now MAP for over 40(!) years.

What do you enjoy about being a Visiting Artist?

First and foremost, it is an honor and privilege to work with the students in MAP. I love the fast pace and the challenge of figuring out how best to connect with the students so they will be encouraged to keep practicing, keep loving music and keep expressing themselves through their music. I also enjoy meeting and talking with the teachers because we have a connection; we have a common goal of sharing our passion for music with our students.

As a Visiting Artist, do you coach students differently than your own students?

It's different in that I am seeing and hearing the students in MAP for the very first time. When I hear the student, my job is like putting icing on the cake; the hard work has already been done by their teachers. With my own students I am with them weekly, from when they first get the music to the finished product.

What advice would you give teachers in preparing their students for MAP?

Be sure the students understand that it's the process of learning a piece where musical growth occurs. It's a fun event that should be celebrated. Be 120% prepared. Dress up. Be respectful, responsive, and open to what the Visiting Artist has to say.

What would you do if a student is so nervous that he or she could not finish playing?

This has happened to a few of my own students. If the student is 6-8 years old, I would bring the music to the piano and sit with them. Give them a minute or two to calm down then have a little conversation with them—about anything. When I put the music up on the rack for them to see they usually recover and “dive” right into the piece. For older students, I give them a few minutes to compose themselves. Sometimes I’ve led them through the “box” breathing technique to help calm them down. They, too, recover remarkably well and usually finish their piece with renewed energy and resolve.

How have you felt about the need for video submissions instead of taking part in live MAP events?

Exhausted! (Insert smile). I feel fortunate we have been able to carry on our programs because of the technology available to us in this day and age but there is no substitute for an in-person venue.

What do you enjoy most about MAP?

I can’t narrow it down to just one thing...I enjoy the whole process!

UPDATE FROM THE EQUITY, INCLUSION, AND DIVERSITY TASK FORCE

Kathy Mortensen, WSMTA President

“Equity, Inclusion, and Diversity: A Work in Progress.” This is the title of the presentation given at the WSMTA State Conference that was hosted by our task force.

Recently, our focus has been on Equity: in terms of accessibility to music education and in terms of employment opportunities for underrepresented demographics. We’re exploring how WSMTA could partner with organizations to work on overcoming gender bias in conducting, or Jazz improvisation, or the underrepresentation of African Americans in orchestras, for example. We’re considering ideas such as procuring grant money to start group piano

classes in underserved areas. Or set up mentorship programs to find teachers and identify places where group lessons can bring communities together.

If you're interested in joining the conversation, the task force meets virtually on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month. Contact Kathy Mortensen kmortensenpiano@gmail.com to receive meeting invitations or to relay news to the EID Task Force.

We are particularly interested to know what YOUR chapter has done to promote Equity, Inclusion and Diversity.

INDEPENDENT MUSIC TEACHERS FORUM

Marketing Strategies for Independent Music Teachers



RoseMarie Tamburri
IMTF Chair

Below is a special treat for Clarion readers: an inspiring and informative article on marketing strategies for Independent Music Teachers by contributing writer **Eric Branner**.

See his bio following the article.

MARKETING STRATEGIES FOR INDEPENDENT MUSIC TEACHERS

What does marketing mean to you as an independent music teacher? There are many facets to being an entrepreneur (which you surely are as a music teacher) such as branding, sales, marketing, operations, and finance. Marketing, related to our great work, means any action or strategy you execute with the goal of getting new students. "How can I get new students?"



Eric Branner
Seattle Chapter Past President

Conventional wisdom encourages running ads, hanging flyers, building social media followings, or focusing on SEO (search engine optimization) for your website. Through speaking directly with hundreds of successful teachers in recent years, I've observed traits and practices that illuminate another approach to building your studio. A sustainable path to marketing your great work costs nothing except a willingness to do your best work and measure its value wisely.

Here are three areas of focus that when combined, will market your work sustainably and effectively.

Do great work. It may seem obvious, but great, caring, thoughtful, intentional work is the most important thing you can do to get more students. Any experienced teacher will tell you that word of mouth is a powerful marketing tool. Your students are like brilliant billboards, promoting your name and approach within their communities. A new student referral from a trusted client is much more likely to convert (signup) than someone who discovered you from a Google ad.

Build a community around your great work. Bring your students together for recitals, masterclasses, group activities. Encourage them to support each other and enjoy the process of learning together. I host an annual recital called the Guitarbeque where I'll invite all of my students, their families, and their friends. Over 200 people show up for a day of music and fun. I get more new students from that single event than anything else I do, and it's the only paid marketing I do throughout the year. Give your students something to talk about, or to feel wonderful about, and your studio will grow.

Let your community support you (charge appropriately). Charging a professional rate for your services is the most powerful tool you can leverage in attracting new clients and remaining content in your career. Customers will often imagine

TEACHER ENRICHMENT

a service to be better if it costs more. Compare two providers, offering the exact same service, where one charges more. The person charging more will often receive more business, because customers assume they are better or more experienced due to their advertised cost. Our industry has historically undervalued the great work we do and feared charging an appropriate, professional rate commensurate with our education and impact. Charging a professional rate is a marketing tool!

Do great work, build community, and charge professionally. Focusing your resources on any one

or all of these areas will transform your marketing and help you maintain a vibrant studio.

This topic was discussed in greater depth during a recent talk for an SMTA general meeting. The full session can be watched here: <https://youtu.be/mml0hVCiCw0>

Eric Branner is the CEO of Fons, an independent music teacher, and the current immediate past president of the Seattle chapter of MTNA.

OUTSTANDING ARTIST PIANO COMPETITION OAPC · Central Washington University · November 11-13, 2022

Cherie Felts, OAPC Chair

I admit that I was excited and smiled as I recently drove past the wonderful Music Performance Arts building at Central Washington University in Ellensburg! I was remembering welcoming students, families, and their teachers in years past and look forward with anticipation to greeting you once more in November! These past years, we've had a high of 47-48 students register and I am wondering if we could get to 50? That would be a great goal and milestone! The registration process will be in place later this summer (mid-August) via the WSMTA Website with deadline date of Wednesday, September 14. The General Guidelines will help to answer teacher/student/parent

questions so look for that on the website also.

I am pleased to announce that our 2022 OAPC Judges will be: Dr. Kay Zavislak, NCTM, Dr. William Nyaho Chapman, NCTM, and Dr. Eneida Larti, NCTM. Please watch for our esteemed Judges' bios and photos later in the summer on our WSMTA website! I wish you all a wonderful Summertime season!

Cherie Felts
OAPC Competition Chair
jscffelts@comcast.net

ABOUT *THE CLARION*

Submit Articles for *The Clarion*

Please send articles and accompanying graphics in JPEG, PNG, or PDF format to Samantha Yeung, WSMTA 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? WSMTA 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

1/3 Page Column	2.6 W x 8.75 H	\$50/\$25
1/3 Page Square	5.2 W x 4.375 H	\$50/\$25
Half Page	8.5 W x 5.5 H	\$100/\$50
Full Page	8.5 W x 11 H	\$150/\$100

- 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

August 15, 2022 for the September 2022 *Clarion*
September 15, 2022 for the October/November 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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