



WASHINGTON STATE
MUSIC TEACHERS
ASSOCIATION

THE CLARION

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 9-11, 2022: MTNA Performance Competitions · Outstanding Artist Piano Competition · Central Washington University · Ellensburg, WA

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

June 26-28, 2023: WSM TA State Conference · Sun Mountain Lodge · Winthrop, WA

IN THIS ISSUE

State, District, & Chapter News

President's Corner	1
Update from the EID Task Force	2
We Salute You!	3
2023 WSM TA Conference	4
Conference Call for Proposals	5
District VI Conference	6
District IV Conference	6
Eastside Chapter Workshop	7
Commissioned Sonatina Award	8
Outstanding Artist Piano Competition (OAPC)	9
Pedal Points	10
MTNA Foundation Fellow	12
Music Literacy Program	14
Vocal & Instrumental (V&I)	15
Young Composers Project	16
Music Artistry Program (MAP)	17
Commissioned Composer	20
WSM TA Hall of Fame	21

Teacher Enrichment

Independent Music Teachers Forum	19
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WASHINGTON STATE
MUSIC TEACHERS
ASSOCIATION

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Kathy Mortensen
WSM TA President

Savoring the Fall Season

Life is settling down a little after the extremely busy month of September. Last month, President Elect Colleen Hunter, NCTM, and I represented Washington state at the MTNA Leadership Summit in Cincinnati. It was educational and energizing and helped me feel supported as a leader.

Note from the MTNA Leadership Summit: For the best pricing at Office Depot, members should register on MTNA's signup page and place orders through odpbusiness.com. Store Purchasing Cards were replaced by the Store Discount Program (QR code) which is not as good vs. placing orders online for store pickup. Read more on the MTNA website: Sign in, under Join and Renew, Members only, then click Member Discounts.

The week after Cincinnati, Colleen hosted the WSM TA Leadership Seminar in Yakima in person, and online. She organized a truly hybrid event. It was inspiring!

Most chapters have had their first General meeting of the school year. They might have had a visit from their District Director or someone from the WSM TA leadership. The chapter yearbooks have been assembled and distributed. Look at everything that is happening in your chapter and in WSM TA. Wow!

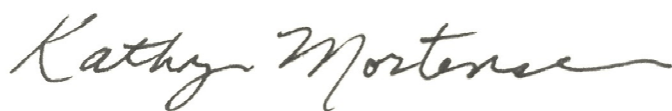
There are Masterclasses and District Conferences, the Outstanding Artist Piano Competition and the MTNA Performance and Composition competitions. Chapters are launching new festivals and events. Local music groups are giving concerts and public performances. Civic orchestras are rehearsing again. My students and I are looking forward to our Halloween recital.

As all this activity resumes, we must acknowledge that every one of us has been affected by the events of the last few years. We have important work to do, focusing more on equal access for all, thinking about how to include more students and teachers and more instruments, adding to our catalog of repertoire and composers.

Use what we learned as we adjusted to the Covid pandemic: streamline committees; form short-term task forces; appreciate each others' strengths; support new initiatives; value efficiency and everyone's time. Set aside time and space for self care.

It's the season to savor cinnamon apple spice tea, walks with a friend, and sharing music with our communities.

Yours in service,



Kathy Mortensen
WSMTA President

UPDATE FROM THE EID TASK FORCE

Kathy Mortensen, WSMTA President

Welcome to the new school year to all music teachers!

The Equity, Inclusion and Diversity task force will release bi-monthly newsletters that will highlight events, articles, suggested repertoire lists, and biographies of featured composers, as well as updates and recent contributions to EID in our state.

We welcome your suggestions on what you might want to see in the upcoming newsletters, and how we can further EID in our state. We will hold an Open House Zoom meeting on October 28 at noon for anyone interested in contributing their thoughts and ideas moving forward. To subscribe to the newsletter and to sign up for the October 28 meeting, please email Lee Eddy at lee114eddy@gmail.com.

The EID task force will continue to meet regularly, on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month, online. Please contact Kathy Mortensen at kmortensenpiano@gmail.com if you would like to join the conversation.



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WE SALUTE YOU!

Kathy Mortensen, WSMTA President

Cheers to District II Director Amanda Harris, for arranging the District I & II Conference on October 8. The conference was in-person for the first time since 2019, and there was also a streaming option for those unable to make the trip.

Thank you to Colleen Hunter, NCTM for planning the Leadership Seminar! Thank you Chapter leaders, WSMTA Chairpersons, Education Board Members and Board of Directors who took time out of their very busy teaching and family schedules to attend the seminar.

A round of applause for Samantha Yeung for her excellent and creative work as the editor of the Clarion.

Kira Miller, NCTM is organizing and preparing for the WSMTA/MTNA Performance Competitions at Central Washington University in Ellensburg. Cherie Felts is equally busy working on the Outstanding Artist Piano Competition that is held concurrently with the performance competitions. You both have my deepest gratitude for your commitment to the performers and judges and ensuring that everything runs smoothly. Thank you for all who volunteer at the competition events.

Thank you to Connie Hungate, WSCTM. for her generous donation to the Student Enrichment Fund in honor of her sister. I appreciate Connie's continued attention to the Lois Whitner Study Grants.

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.

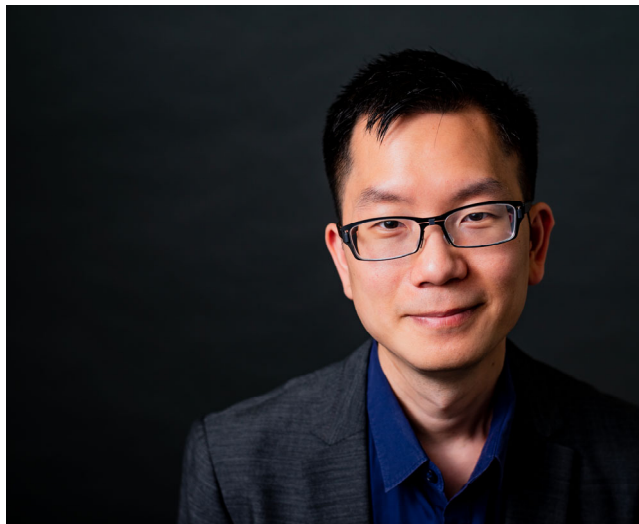


SAVE THE DATE

2023 WSM TA CONFERENCE

COLLABORATION IN THE CASCADES

June 26-28, 2023 · Sun Mountain Lodge · Winthrop, WA
Conference Guest Artist: Wei-Han Wu



This is a conference you won't want to miss! Sun Mountain Lodge is a luxury destination resort, set in the beautiful North Cascades. I encourage you to explore their website: <https://www.sunmountainlodge.com>.

Our Conference guest artist, Wei-Han Wu, is a musician of many interests, all related to piano! If a piano is involved, he's curious about it. He gets "anxious" doing the same thing all the time, and that restlessness has led to a double Doctorate in Piano Performance and Collaborative Piano from Eastman.

Described as "brilliant" by the Pittsburgh Tribune, Wei-Han Wu has performed in venues such as the Chicago Cultural Center, the Kennedy Center, and Carnegie's Weill Recital Hall. He has been a featured performer at the Tanglewood, Aspen, Castleton, Lake George, and Walla Walla Chamber Music Festivals.

Dedicated to the performance and promotion of new music, Dr. Wu is currently pianist for the [Switch~ Ensemble] as well as Duo Axis, which was co-founded with flutist Zach Sheets. Duo Axis has commissioned and premiered dozens of new works by many up-and-coming composers, including Katie Balch, Anthony Cheung, Tonia Ko, and many others. Dr. Wu previously served as pianist for the Aspen Contemporary Ensemble, Pittsburgh New Music Ensemble, and the president of OSSIA New Music.

We are excited to announce that his recital at the Conference will include his Duo Axis cofounder, flutist Zach Sheets—it will be an example of true collaboration!

2023 WSM TA CONFERENCE

COLLABORATION IN THE CASCADES

June 26-28, 2023 · Sun Mountain Lodge · Winthrop, WA

Conference Guest Artist: Wei-Han Wu

NOW ACCEPTING CONFERENCE PROPOSALS

The WSM TA Conference Planning Committee is accepting presentation proposals for the 2023 WSM TA Conference at Sun Mountain Lodge, near Winthrop, WA. Proposals are due **Monday, November 7, 2022**.

The committee is eager to see your presentation proposals and particularly interested in, but not limited to, the following topics:

- Pedagogy sessions that apply to all instruments and all levels:
- creating/facilitating a chamber music program within the studio
- Pre-instrumental classes for young children
- Group lessons
- Composition
- Jazz
- Ensembles
- Adult students
- Accompanying skills
- Studio management: marketing; policies; communication skills
- Balancing one's personal and professional life
- Music and Movement
- Mental Health in the Music Lesson
- Sessions focused on Vocal, Winds, Brass and Strings

Submit a detailed proposal online: <https://wsmta.org/wsmta-conference-call-for-proposals>.



DISTRICT VI CONFERENCE

Friday, November 4, 2022 • 9:30 am to 12:30 pm • Kennewick First United Methodist Church
In-Person and Virtual Conference

Conference Fees: \$25 Non-Members, \$15 Members, \$10 Virtual Option



Dr. Deborah Rambo Sinn

Playing Beyond the Notes: A Pianist's Guide to Musical Interpretation

Dr. Deborah Rambo Sinn will bring District VI teachers a dynamic presentation about the secret lives of phrases. She will give two mini talks, the first about the trills and spills of ornamentation, and the second about rubato, physical fitness and what lies beneath.

Register online at www.wsmta.org.

Contact: Margo Cox, District VI Director,
mrsc@margocox.org

DISTRICT IV CONFERENCE

Saturday, October 22, 2022 • 9:00 am to 3:00 pm • Centralia Church of the Nazarene

Conference Fees: \$35 Non-Members, \$25 Members, \$15 Students

Dr. Melissa Schiel

Collaboration Between Voice and Accompanist

A faculty member of Central Washington University since 2011, Dr. Melissa Schiel teaches applied voice, diction and vocal pedagogy. She received her Doctor of Musical Arts in Voice Performance from the University of Maryland; a Master of Music in Voice Performance from University of Toronto; and, a Bachelor of Music, Distinction in Voice from McGill University. A passionate and energetic teacher, she received a 2009 Award for Teaching Excellence for her work at the University of Maryland.



EASTSIDE CHAPTER WORKSHOP

Monday, October 24, 2022 • 10:30 am to 12:30 pm • Newport Covenant Church in Bellevue

Cost: \$20

Eastside Music Teachers Association invites you to our workshop!

If you missed the WSM TA Conference, you can catch one of the lectures from it. We have scheduled a workshop by Peter Mack.

Peter Mack: "Marvelous Moderns and their Needlessly Neglected Mid-Level Masterpieces"



In this repertoire lecture Peter Mack explores mostly modern shorter works, offering an alternative to the tried-and-true twentieth century favorites that we hear again and again. There is a vast body of neglected repertoire out there.

This demonstration uncovers unknown pieces to spark the interest of students, teachers, adjudicators, and audiences alike. Most of the pieces played are of mid-range difficulty. Sections from over forty works are performed, and there is an extensive handout in which the difficulty for each piece is assessed, along with its publishing information.

Pay online to reserve your seat or walk-ons are welcome. Please visit our website for more information at www.eastsidemta.org.

If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Jang, Workshop Chair at nsungjang@yahoo.com

MARSHA WRIGHT COMMISSIONED SONATINA AWARD



Seattle Music Teachers Association launched The Marsha Wright Commissioned Sonatina Award as a means to support student and teacher composers, and encourage composition of new sonatinas. The award alternates between WSMTA teachers in odd-numbered years, and student composers in even-numbered years. This season the award will go to a WSMTA teacher-composer. The award is \$750.

We are looking for an early-intermediate level sonatina in three movements, for solo, duet or trio involving any combination of piano, flute, and/or violin. A nod to traditional sonata-allegro form is welcome but not necessary; any brief work in several movements will qualify as a sonatina. What is most important is that all parts be playable by early-intermediate level students.

WSMTA teacher members should send 3 to 5 samples of Intermediate level composition by November 1. The works will be reviewed anonymously by a panel of SMTA members, who will choose one composer by December 1. The commissioned composer will submit a finished piece by February 15. The Marsha Wright Commissioned Sonatina Award is \$750, paid upon submission of the final piece.

Send the following by November 1:

- A brief email to smtaoffice@gmail.com stating your full name, email, phone number, and your chapter in WSMTA. Please put "Sonatina Festival commission submission" in the subject line.
- A PDF file of your original score(s), with no identifying information in the document itself. (Compositions will be renamed by random number assignment in order to ensure anonymity before being reviewed.)
- MP3 or WAV audio file

The new sonatina will be premiered at The Marsha Wright Sonatina Festival in April, 2023. If the composer has a student in mind while they are creating the piece, we welcome that student to perform in the Sonatina Festival.

The award is named in honor of the Sonatina Festival's founder and is supported by a generous gift from Dorothy Woodcock.

Suggestions/guidelines for an early-intermediate level piece:

- Limit the key signature to 1 or 2 sharps or flats.
- Meters: compound time such as 6/8 is OK.
- Piano: compare to a Clementi sonatina
- Violin: compare to Suzuki Volume 3
- Flute: Compare to ABRSM Grade 5 or below

Contact: Mariya Lincoln, SMTA Administrative Coordinator at smtaoffice@gmail.com

OUTSTANDING ARTIST PIANO COMPETITION

OAPC · Central Washington University · November 11-13, 2022

Cherie Felts, OAPC Chair

Competition days are drawing closer! The competition and practice room schedules are nearly complete. I am impressed every year with the capable and willing WSM TA Leadership and other folks from our membership that travel and work so hard to make this a memorable experience for our students. We enjoy being together, and part of it feels like a reunion of sorts! I believe that this year's competition weekend will feel wonderful after being in virtual mode for past two years!

I wish all the participants great preparation and joy with their performances. I am so excited to see everybody walking into our performance space at Central Washington University. The following paragraph is a repeat from the last Clarion article, but bears repeating:

We are honored to have the opportunity to welcome our 2022 OAPC judges: Dr. William Nyaho Chapman, NCTM, Dr. Kay Zavislak, NCTM and Dr. Eneida Larti, NCTM. Please look for their photos and bios on the WSM TA website. We are very fortunate to have each one of them with us and thank them for giving us their time, energy and thoughtful comments.



PEDAL POINTS

Music Artistry Program for Organ: Action Required



Joann Richardson, NCTM
Organ Chair

After a successful launch of a state-wide, online-only Music Artistry Program for Organ (MAP) last year, I hope you will enter your organ students this year. The only way for this program to grow and improve is through your participation and feedback. Please consult the WSM TA MAP materials located on the WSM TA website for

more information (including fees, repertoire, and registration). Here are some deadlines and dates:

October 31, 2022: Preliminary Report Deadline. Please email me at organistjoann@gmail.com an estimate of:

- How many students you plan to enter in the organ MAP
- The total time you need to book with the Visiting Artist (VA)— please also include passing time and teacher consultation time (consult the MAP handbook on the WSM TA website to calculate this).

January 15, 2023: Registration Deadline for MAP for Organ (register and pay for MAP on the WSM TA website)

March 2023: MAP for organ takes place— date and Time TBA

VA: Dr. Jill Schneider

FAQ

Q: Why can't the organ MAP be an in-person event?

A: It may be possible for an organ MAP to be an in-person event if enough organ students in one

geographic location register. The fiscal realities of an in-person MAP require additional expenses to be paid (such as venue rental, and VA lodging, travel, and meals). An in-person organ MAP may also be possible if students are willing to travel to a central location (such as Ellensburg)— so if you are willing to travel, please let me know. If the number of registrants does not reach a critical mass to cover the expenses of an in-person organ MAP, then there is no choice but to hold the event online.

Q: Why do we not have VAs in organ located throughout the state?

A: Qualified potential VAs need to apply through WSM TA and go through a vetting and training process. Finding potential VAs for organ who are willing to do this has been challenging. If you or someone you know is qualified and willing to serve as a VA, please contact WSM TA's MAP Chair to get the process going.

Q: Why can't we partner with the AGO (American Guild of Organists) to get more organ students signed up?

A: AGO members are always welcome to participate, however the teacher must either be a member of WSM TA or pay a non-member teacher fee of \$125.00 (in addition to all student/evaluation fees) in order to participate. Based on past difficulties with non-WSM TA piano teachers participating in MAP, WSM TA's board of directors did not approve reciprocity that would have waived the \$125.00 fee for AGO members.

Q: Are organ MAP students eligible for honors recitals at the WSM TA state conference?

A: Yes. Approval was given to have one organ representative for WSM TA conference honors recitals, providing that the student meets a high

enough standard as determined by the VA. The student must follow all of the rules of any other honor's recital participant (such as appearing in-person) and arrangements may be made to have audio/and or video of the student's performance played during the honors recital if there is no suitable organ available at the venue for a live performance.

Q: What if I'm not-good with technology— can someone help me with an online organ MAP?

A: Yes. First ask your students, someone younger than 35, or perhaps a friend for help. If you still need help, then email me. My children used to call me an analog mother in a digital world. If I can figure this out, I'm confident anyone can!



S P O K A N E
SPC 2022
PIANO COMPETITION

OCTOBER 27- NOVEMBER 5
2022
For registration and details:
SPOKANEPIANOCOMPETITION.COM

AGE BRACKETS:	MUSIC CATEGORIES:
Youth Division: Grades 1-5 (Nov. 2-3) Junior Division: Grades 6-8 (Nov. 3-5) Senior Division: Grades 9-12 (Oct. 27-29)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baroque • Classical • Romantic • Impressionist/Modern • Ensemble Competition • Non-Competitive & Adult

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MTNA FOUNDATION FELLOW NOMINEE

2023 MTNA Foundation Fellow Nominee: Dr. John Pickett

Peter Mack, NCTM, WSMTA MTNA Foundation Fellow Chair

WSMTA is delighted to announce that Dr. John Pickett has been nominated as the Music Teachers National Association Foundation Fellow from Washington State for 2023. 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 MTNA national conference Gala Banquet on Monday, March 27th, 2023, in Reno, Nevada.

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 each honoree's name. After the award is given, a letter detailing the names of their donors is sent to each of them, so they will be able to thank all those who supported their nominations.

To contribute in support of John, click on this link:
<https://www.mtnafoundation.org/contribute/contribute-now/>

At the bottom of the form, there is a list of funds and endowments. Make sure to scroll past that list to the box marked 'Fellow,' and to write John's name in that box. That way, the gift will go towards his fellowship funds. You have to do this in order for him to receive credit.

About John Pickett

John Pickett has received critical acclaim for his performances in the U.S., Europe and Asia. His performances in Krakow and Katowice, Poland earned him praise from The Gazeta Wyborcza for his "perfect sound balance, great intuition and sensibility," and The Trybuna Slaska for his



John Pickett

"ravishing" Rhapsody in Blue of George Gershwin. In June of 2006 he performed the Rhapsody at Carnegie Hall with orchestra for more than 2,000 people. For his InterHarmony performance in Germany, the reviewer wrote, "With the Preludes and Etude by Rachamaninoff, John Pickett opened the evening. Virtuositic and pliable in expression, vigorously pointed and fresh was his melodic design."

In October of 2004 John Pickett performed recitals and masterclasses throughout Estonia. The Narvaleht noted that "this musician has a special relationship with the piano" and that "he showed special affinity for the understanding and

performance of Rachmaninoff." In 1994 John Pickett was a finalist in The First International Competition of 20th Century Piano Music held in Orleans, France, and was invited back to France the following year to perform solo recitals in Paris and Orleans. Le Loiret wrote that Samuel Barber's Sonata "is a work that fits him like a glove: rhythmic energy, melodic inventiveness and a fugue as part of fireworks finale." John Pickett also performed a solo recital at the Conservatoire de Paris as part of an American music festival which featured the 1994 and 1996 laureates of this competition. Following his Carnegie Recital Hall debut The New York Times praised his "impeccable" pianism. His performance of Rachmaninoff's 3rd Concerto with The Charlotte Symphony won him "a spontaneous standing ovation." The Charlotte Observer added, "Rachmaninoff is a master melody maker and so is Pickett." In 2017 John Pickett performed the Last Three Sonatas of Beethoven at Hunter College in New York.

A dedicated teacher, John Pickett's students have been past winners of the Washington State Music Teachers State Solo and the WMEA Competitions, regularly serve as graduate teaching assistants, participate in study abroad programs and go on to do graduate work at internationally recognized music institutions. He has given masterclasses at The Ecole Normale, The Krakow Conservatory, The

Chautauqua Summer Institute and Conservatorio de la Rosas, in Morelia, Mexico. For twenty years John Pickett served as the founder and director of The CWU Sonatina Festival which brought as many as 400 pianists from around the state to campus. John Pickett retired from Central in 2020 but continues to teach and perform. Recently he gave his first performance of Bach's Goldberg Variations. John Pickett received the Distinguished Professor Award from Central in 2006.

John Pickett is a composer whose works encompass a wide range of genres and styles. In 2013, he composed the film score for Clearwater Studio's production of the sci-fi based film, V3. More recently, he composed the music for a Clearwater Studio production of an Ellensburg branding video and with Clearwater, shared a 2014 Telly award for this project. In 2004, John Pickett was a finalist in the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) art song competition for his song cycle, Thirteen Ways of Looking at a Blackbird, based on the text by Wallace Stevens. John Pickett is also a composer of popular music and was a finalist in The Great American Song Competition in both 2016 and 2017.

Thank you for supporting this wonderful nominee!

—Peter Mack, NCTM, WSMTA MTNA Foundation Chair

MUSIC LITERACY PROGRAM

Reduced State Costs and Online Chapter Profile Reporting



Melanie Stroud, NCTM
*WSMTA Music Literacy
Program Chair*

As I'm writing this article, I am gearing up to present for the Kitsap Music Teachers in two days, and at the WSMTA Leadership Conference in Yakima in three days! I am also very excited to be planning ahead to share at the Tacoma and Lake Washington chapters later in the year. There are so many exciting things happening with our Music Literacy Program! This year, our online payments should function correctly, and the illustrious Mary Grant has streamlined online registration forms for chapters who have requested that, and is ready for more as requests come in. I am so very thankful to Mary for her expertise with Google Forms, and her cheerful attitude!

Another change coming around the bend, as we work to streamline the process, is that certificates will not be mailed out by Carrie any longer. We

have reduced the state cost to \$3.25/student, in order to allow for some extra income for chapters to print their own certificates. Seals for the students with honors will still be mailed as requested. We have also put the chapter chair's profile report online this year, and that is streamlined for efficiency as well.

If you have not participated in the Music Literacy Program yet, or are fairly new to it, I have exciting news for you as well! The curriculum guide has been revised to be more user friendly. You can find it on the website, under student programs and the Music Literacy Program. If you are a vocal or instrumental teacher, check out Jane Melin's article! It is full of wonderful suggestions for preparing your students. If you haven't yet, I hope you'll join us on the adventure of Music Literacy!

FROM YOUR VOCAL & INSTRUMENTAL CHAIR

Preparing for the WSM TA Music Literacy Program



Jane Melin, NCTM
WSMTA V&I Chair

It's not too soon, and never too late, to formally incorporate music theory topics into your vocal and instrumental teaching! I've observed for years that piano students have many pre-packaged resources for learning music theory to choose from. All the popular piano methods have companion theory workbooks. Not so much in the strings-teaching world, and I suspect the same is true for winds and voice!

WSMTA members have some exclusive theory-testing resources available for a variety of non-keyboard instruments. The Music Literacy Program provides leveled assessments in five distinct areas of musicianship: Written Theory, Rhythm, Ear Training, Sight Reading, and Technique (please see Melanie Stroud's article on the MLP elsewhere in this issue).

To familiarize yourself with the MLP in general, start at the WSM TA website: www.wsmta.org/programs-for-students/musicianship-examinations. To find out how the tests have been modified to accommodate vocal and instrumental students, please view/download the newly updated "Curriculum Guide for Vocal and Instrumental MLP" (formerly "Curriculum Guide for Strings") linked on the above page under "Resources for Teachers." It is a rundown of the specific information that will be tested in each area.

You can use the Curriculum Guide to plan for music theory topics to cover at each level in your studio!

- **Rhythm** tests are for all instruments.
- **Ear Training** tests are given from pre-recorded audio tracks, and the same test is offered to all instruments. There are optional questions at some levels, reflecting the typical teaching progression and terminology of strings instruction. Teachers can elect to have their students answer as many questions as possible, or tell them they can skip some questions without penalty. Use the test guidelines as a challenge for your studio: can your students learn to recognize interval distances and quality, from 2nds to octaves, by Level 6?
- **Sight Reading** excerpts have been curated for violin students, but can be adapted for most treble instruments (in concert pitch). Viola/alto clef, cello/bass clef, and dedicated wind instrument excerpts await further development.
- Unlike the other test areas, **Technique** tests are 100% available to be viewed and used as curriculum. Ten levels of required scales and arpeggios are listed for violin, viola, cello,

and bass. The tests should be posted under Resources for Teachers soon.

- **Written Theory** is the only test area where scores are reported up to the state level. The tests have been adapted for Violin, but most of the questions are appropriate for all treble instruments—except for questions about finger positions on the violin strings.

Study Resources for students are linked from the WSM TA page as well. The Compose/Create website has teaching materials for Rhythm and Ear Training. For Sight Reading practice, I use ABRSM's "Violin Specimen Sight-Reading Tests" (available for other instruments too); and I see that they also have a sight reading app for violin. Written Theory practice tests for violin are available at gdaemusic.com.

For advanced music theory study (Levels 8-10), I use Alfred's Essentials of Music Theory, Complete Book and 2 Ear Training CDs. For the lower levels, I use a combination of iPad apps like Tenuto (linked to www.musictheory.net for online quizzing) with self-published worksheets and beginner-level workbooks. You are welcome to use the online theory quizzes for different levels that I've set up on my studio website: www.melinmusicstudio.com/tips-and-resources/music-theory-study.

I try to make music theory review a regular part of lessons in the fall, so students will have success in our chapter's Music Carnival/Music Literacy Program next spring!

YOUNG COMPOSERS PROJECT

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

Please make note of the following changes to the Young Composers' Project for this year (2022-2023). We look forward to an even larger amount of students participating this coming year.

- 1) Once someone wins in 2023, they will not be eligible to compete in 2024. They can submit "for comment" only. They will be eligible for competition again in 2025.
- 2) All solo and duet performances of winning compositions must be live. However, video recordings of a live performance of a winning composition with three or more players will be

allowed. Composer must attend the recital to introduce the piece. No audio recordings will be permitted.

- 3) The performance time of compositions will be limited to 3 minutes for K-4, 5 minutes for grades 5-8, and 7 minutes for grades 9-12.
- 4) The collegiate and teacher categories will be dropped as there was insufficient participation.
- 5) Registration will open as in previous years on December 1, 2022 and the deadline will be February 22, 2023.

MUSIC ARTISTRY PROGRAM (MAP)

Preparing for Your MAP Event



Jason Kuo
WSMTA MAP Chair

Upcoming Deadline for Chapter MAP Chairs

November 1 is the deadline for the MAP preliminary report.

2022-2023 MAP Changes

1. New Student Registration Fee for MAP
The student registration fees for 15-, 20- and 30-minute time slots have been raised according to the following table:

Time Slot	10	15	20	30
2021-2022 Rate	\$20	\$25	\$30	\$40
2022-2023 Rate	\$20	\$30	\$40	\$50

It is never our intention to make MAP unaffordable to families! **MAP Fee Grants** are available for teachers to apply on behalf of their students with financial need. Teachers simply need to file an online MAP Fee Grant application after registering their studios.

2. New Chapter Reimbursement Rate
The Chapter Reimbursement Rate has been raised from \$100 to \$125 per 8 hours of assessment. (Hours of assessment refers to the total scheduled hours minus Visiting Artists’ lunch time.) Hopefully this will

help the Chapters to offset the rising cost of venue rental and piano tuning. Chapters should still pay close attention to the transportation expense of the Visiting Artists: the amount exceeding the \$300 cap may become the responsibility of the Chapter.

3. Visiting Artist Pay Rate
The Visiting Artist pay rate has been increased from \$43 to \$44/hour.

4. New Hotel Per Diem
For all chapters (those that have not been adjusted after Sept 2021), the hotel per diem (“lodging cap”) has been increased according to the table below. In essence, chapters are automatically bumped up one tier, except Seattle is bumped to a new tier of \$180.

Previous Cap	\$110	\$125	\$140	\$160
New Cap	\$125	\$140	\$160	\$180

You will find these details in the 2022-2023 MAP Chair Procedures and Visiting Artist Instructions.

Clarification on Registration Process

- 1. **Please book time slots longer than 2x the playing time.** If you are not quite sure about the playing time at the time of registration, please

err on the generous side. Students may be cut off at half time to allow for Visiting Artist feedback. Teachers: please do not ask Visiting Artists to allow the entire time slot for playing; that could be interpreted as disrespectful.

2. **One MAP Order, One Event.** Please do not register multiple events in one MAP order (one credit card transaction). We have to manually parse the order to attribute the revenue and credit card fee into several events when you do that. For example, if you have students in a vocal event, a strings event, and a piano event, please register them under three separate orders. Please do not forget to register yourself for each event. **All teachers are required to register themselves for oral/written consultation in each event their students participate.**

COVID Safety Protocol

Each MAP event is allowed to implement its own COVID safety protocol. Please check with the MAP Chair of your event before registering your studio. While there is no mandate from WSMTA, we recommend the following measures:

- MAP Chairs should continue to book large venues with good ventilation as in 2022.
- In-person voice/woodwind/brass events should recommend or require students taking home COVID tests before the event.
- Sick child should not attend MAP. Sick child may be (1) offered a mask as a condition to participate, or (2) turned away by the Visiting Artist. Unless mutually agreed upon beforehand between the MAP Chair and the Visiting Artist, Teachers should not assume that the Visiting Artist will agree to switch to virtual format at the last minute.

High School Credit

If you would like your students to receive high school credit in Applied Music for studying with you, you need to have them take the completed High

School Credit packet to their school officials for pre-approval at the beginning of the school year. To be eligible, teachers must have a current NCTM or WSCTM certification, and students must participate in MAP and perform two pieces from memory. High School Credit packets will be emailed to Chapter MAP Chairs and to teachers who previously participated in the High School Credit program. If your student does not take the packet to the school for approval at the beginning of the school year, most likely the school administrator will not know what to do when the student presents the packet at the end of the school year.

The following school districts are known to approve high school credit:

- Ellensburg (0.25 credit per semester, pass/fail only)
- Kettle Falls
- Colville
- WAVA K12 (Washington Virtual Academies)
- Homeschooled students

If you are interested in receiving a packet, please email me at jason.kuo@gmail.com.

Visiting Artist on the Move

We would like to thank **Claire Marshall** (piano, Kitsap chapter) and **Cynthia Vaughn** (voice, Tri-Cities) for their decades of service as MAP Visiting Artists. Claire decided to retire from our Visiting Artist roster this year. Cynthia has moved to Virginia. Our teachers and students will miss you!

INDEPENDENT MUSIC TEACHERS FORUM

No Unanswered Questions: Recap of the IMTF Session at Conference
Part Two

RoseMarie Tamburri
IMTF Chair

Here is the second recap of the “IMTF Musical Jeopardy!” session held at the WSM TA Conference in June. In the September issue I shared our discussion on the topics of **Resources and Policies**. In this issue I will share the many wonderful ideas for **Marketing and Growing Your Studio**.

At some point in our teaching careers, we independent music teachers will need to grow our studios. For those of us just starting out, we need to find students and keep them! Growing and sustaining our studios is a concern for all of us regardless of what stage we are in with our careers.

The best way to market? “Show and Tell.”

One task we all need to do is market ourselves and our services. Marketing is a way to tell our story – and show potential students who we are, what we do, and how our services will enrich their lives. Below are the dozens of ideas and best practices our group shared.

- Get MTNA Certification! This credential is an effective recruitment tool.
- Word of Mouth Referral—This is a tried-and-true method of marketing. Satisfied customers (students) will tell their friends, neighbors, families about you. A twist on this approach is to ask your current students for referrals. You might even offer a financial incentive though they will likely be happy to spread the word about what a great teacher you are without a reward!

- Social Media and other digital platforms: Facebook, Facebook Mom Groups, Google Ads, Google Maps/Business, YouTube channel; Nextdoor
- Post flyers at local music stores, schools, around town, churches, dance/sports/gymnastics schools.
- Create a website! This was considered a top priority for marketing your studio in today’s virtual world. Design it so it is easy to use.
- Reach out to local band teachers.
- Participate in MTNA, WSM TA, and your local chapter. Networking with colleagues expands your reach and opportunities for visibility.
- Create a portfolio: Business cards, Swag – tote bags, hats, stickers, t-shirts.
- Publications: articles, books, QR codes
- Email campaigns, PM messages
- Create a blog!
- Create performance videos of yourself and your students—hold live performances.
- Consult a marketing expert and/or ad specialist to help craft your unique message.

What a treasure trove of suggestions for independent music teachers! Thanks to all who participated in the IMTF session, and I look forward to hearing how these and other strategies help you market your studio and tell your story!

COMMISSIONED COMPOSER OF THE YEAR

2024 Call for Composers



Louise Nedela
WSMTA CCOY Chair

Mission Statement

The WSMTA Commissioned Composer of the Year is the Washington State segment of the MTNA Composer Commissioning Program. MTNA is dedicated to encouraging the creation of new works by American composers, and annually assists its affiliated State Associations with the generation and

performance of new music through the national Composer Commissioning program. A newly commissioned work receives its premiere performance at the convention of the State MTA, which is then submitted to a panel of recognized composers for selection of the MTNA Distinguished Composer of the Year.

2024 Call for Composers

While the Call for Composers for 2024 will be in a later edition of the Clarion, it is not too early for composers to be thinking of exploring this exciting venture. The state Composers of the Year are coveted awards for composers, and all state Commissioned Composers are considered for the MTNA National award. Please see the September 2022 Clarion for information regarding the 2022 and 2023 Commissioned Composers: **Shlomo Farber** and **Sean Osborn**.

As you prepare you should keep a few requirements in mind.

- The selected State Commissioned 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.
- The monetary amount for WSMTA CCOY is \$2500 and is \$5000 for the MTNA DCOY.

WSMTA also requires:

- A composition for advanced or professional level for any instrument or voice
- That the composer must reside in Washington State
- The composer does not need to be a member of MTNA or WSMTA
- Previous CCOY and employees of WSMTA are ineligible
- Submissions will be accepted between February 1-April 15, 2023

Composers can begin now in preparation! The Commissioned Composer Committee will be looking for:

- Two of your original existing compositions (no arrangements) that represent your compositional ability for this project;
- format must be PDF scores and MP3 audio
- A short bio and contact information
- A synopsis of your intended project that adheres to the requirements

The selected composer will subsequently prepare a new composition.

Please feel free to contact Louise Nedela with any questions at louisenedela@gmail.com.

WSMTA HALL OF FAME Call for Nominations



Chris VanBuskirk
Hall of Fame Chair

October has arrived, and far too quickly, I might add. I trust you have been thinking about who you might want to nominate to the WSMTA Hall of Fame. I ask that you consider nominating a deserving person, who has inspired you to continue pressing into teaching with even more excellence and all that goes with this wonderful profession.

Keep the flame alive as you go through this fall, 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 WSMTA Hall of Fame.

The WSMTA website has all the information you need for getting started. At least three letters of recommendation are requested and can be from your chapter president, a colleague, a parent and even a present or former student. The deadline for 2023 Hall of Fame nominee entries is December 10, 2022 and can be sent to me at classickeys@comcast.net.

Let me know if you are planning to start working on your packet but have questions. I am very happy to help you in every way possible. Enjoy the beautiful colors of fall and getting back into the full swing of teaching your music students.

**Entry Deadline for 2022-2023 nominees is
December 10, 2022.**

ABOUT THE CLARION

Submit Articles for *The Clarion*

Please send articles via Google Docs to Samantha Yeung, WSMTA Communications Coordinator, via email: c.samantha.yeung@gmail.com.

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	\$75/\$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 the 5th of the month preceding the date of publication.

September	August 5
October/November	September 5
December/January	November 5
February/March	January 5
April/May	March 5
June/July	May 5

Upcoming Deadlines

November 5, 2022 for the December 2022/January 2023 *Clarion*
January 5, 2022 for the February/March 2023 *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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