

WASHINGTON STATE MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

THE CLARION

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 28, 2023: Education Board Meeting · Virtual

January 29, 2023: Board of Directors Meeting · Virtual

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

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

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WASHINGTON STATE MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Kathy Mortensen WSMTA President

Peace, Hope, and Joy

We each have our traditions celebrating the many holidays during December and January: lights and candles, music, gathering together, and delicious foods. We contemplate the year gone by, and the year ahead, and count our blessings.

In our music world this part of the calendar year is busy with holiday performances, registration deadlines for

spring music events, final decisions on MAP pieces for students, planning and saving for upcoming national and state conferences, and MLP preparation.

The fall WSMTA events were well-planned and successfully carried off by our wonderful colleagues and all of their supporting teams: MTNA Composition Competition (Nathan Campbell), MTNA Performance Competition (Kira Miller, NCTM), Outstanding Artist Piano Competition (Cherie Felts), District I and II Conference (Amanda Harris), District IV Conference (Selah Newkirk), and District VI Conference (Margo Cox, NCTM).

Our upcoming spring 2023 activities promise to be just as amazing!

Start planning what you want to see, hear, and do at the MTNA Conference in Reno, March 25-29. If you will be attending the Gala Banquet, purchase your banquet ticket when you register for the conference.

WSMTA Foundation Fellow, John Pickett, will be honored at the Gala Banquet along with other Foundation Fellows from across the nation. WSMTA will be reserving some tables at the banquet for a separate fee. If you wish to save a seat and sit with your colleagues from Washington, please contact me by email. WSMTA will pay half of the state table reservation fee. I look forward to celebrating our honoree with you in Reno!

Our state Conference is at Sun Mountain Lodge, June 26-28, 2023. This will be a unique setting for WSMTA. Conference Co-Chairs Carol Cross and Lois Rhoads are planning for an educational and musical three days, with time in the schedule that is unstructured, so we can enjoy the beauty of the surroundings. The WSMTA Board has set aside funds to subsidize the cost of the state conference.

In Memory of Shirley Peringer

We thank our supporters for their gifts to the Teacher Enrichment Fund and to Whitner Study Grants in memory of Shirley Peringer. Shirley Peringer was an active member of the Seattle Chapter. In addition to her piano teaching, Shirley was a talented artist. When I was at the MTNA Leadership Summit in Cincinnati, we had a tour of the MTNA offices. I saw Shirley's beautiful painting called "Rhododendrons" on one of the walls. WSMTA has also donated a framed photo made by Lee Mann called "Mount Rainier Reflection," and a framed photo made by Shirley Haley called "Barn on Young Road."



In Memory of Nancy Heyer

The Bellingham chapter lost their dynamic member and good friend, Nancy Heyer. She died in September from injuries sustained in an automobile accident. Her obituary is on the chapter's website: https://www.bellinghammusicteachers.org/nancy-heyer-obituary. The chapter has started a Scholarship Fund in Nancy's name. It is a



WASHINGTON STATE MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION



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needs based scholarship that provides assistance in paying for chapter events, lessons, and instrument rentals.

Reflecting on the year 2022 and its challenges, I am grateful for the thoughtful advice, helping hands, and hugs (virtual and in person) I've received.

I'm looking forward to 2023 and seeing old friends and meeting new ones at chapter, state, and national events!

Yours in service,

Kathy Mostence

Kathy Mortensen WSMTA President

UPDATE FROM THE EID TASK FORCE

Kathy Mortensen, WSMTA President

The WSMTA Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Task Force continues to meet regularly. Their ongoing discussions explore issues of access to music study and diverse repertoire for all types of students and for all types of teachers. They also seek to identify structures and practices at the local and state level that may (even inadvertently) help maintain inequity, and develop strategies to support each other in addressing them. We put equity first in our name to reflect this.

The task force is developing a survey. There will be a session at the state Conference next June. In the meantime, the group welcomes your questions and concerns. They 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.

The EID task force has released its first bi-monthly newsletter. It highlights events, articles, suggested repertoire lists, and biographies of featured composers, as well as updates and recent contributions to EID in our state. To subscribe to the newsletter, please email Lee Eddy at lee114eddy@gmail.com.

WSMTA OFFICE CLOSED FOR THE HOLIDAYS

The WSMTA office will be closed between December 22, 2022 and January 2, 2023.

We hope that you and yours will enjoy time reconnecting with family and friends and celebrating the holidays.

We look forward to responding to emails and voicemails on January 3, 2023.





SAVE THE DATE 2023 WSMTA CONFERENCE COLLABORATION IN THE CASCADES

June 26-28, 2023 · Sun Mountain Lodge · Winthrop, WA Conference Guest Artist: Dr. 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. You can explore their website at www.sunmountainlodge.com.

Our guest artist, **Dr. Wei-Han Wu**, is a member of Pi Kappa Lambda and 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 holds degrees from Northwestern, University of Michigan, and the Eastman School of Music, where he earned a double doctorate in piano performance and collaborative piano.

As an accomplished vocal coach, Wei-Han has worked with artists such as Susanne Mentzer, Vinson Cole, and Nancy Gustafson. He is currently on the faculty at Shenandoah University and Peabody Conservatory, and served on the faculty for the Washington National Opera Institute. More recently, he has served as a conductor for a production of Carmen with the Loudoun Lyric Opera, and Hydrogen Jukebox by Philip Glass at Shenandoah University.



Dedicated to the performance and promotion of new music, Wei-Han 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. He 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 co-founder, flutist Zach Sheets—an experience of true collaboration!

Sun Mountain Lodge

Because the location of this destination resort is so special, the 2023 Conference will be like none other you have ever attended! The Conference Committee is working hard to provide a memorable program of inspiring recitals and stimulating sessions, balanced with enough flexible time to allow for walking or biking the many trails, relaxing on the decks or in the hot tubs, connecting with friends new and old, and time to absorb the peaceful, stunning beauty of the surrounding mountains.

Mark your calendar: registration opens on **February 1**. Sun Mountain is providing us their 4-star resort rooms at a significant discount. In addition, WSMTA is subsidizing hotel reservations for all who register by **May 10!**

Detailed instructions for securing these deeply discounted rooms will be available on the WSMTA website by February 1.





WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Carrie Kahler, WSMTA Administrative Coordinator

Please welcome all the members who have joined WSMTA over the last six months!

Chen Liang South King County Chapter

Christina Fangman Tri-Cities Chapter

Rachel Reyes Snohomish Chapter

Clara Brown Pullman Chapter

Kristina Komarove Spokane Chapter

Kevin Hudson Snohomish Chapter

Preston Lawrence Clarkston-Lewiston, Pullman Chapters

Hyejin Kim Snohomish Chapter

Hilary Baird Spokane Chapter

Laryn Young Edmonds Chapter

Erin Howard Whidbey Island Chapter

Yanan Li Eastside Chapter

Weiting Wu Eastside Chapter

Angela Morone Gig Harbor Chapter

Danna Curfman Yakima Ellensburg Chapter

Heidi Jansen Van Rensburg Seattle Chapter

Dyonnis Christina Lewis County Chapter



WASHINGTON STATE MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION Queency Robinson Puyallup Valley Chapter

Lesleigh Reinfried Seattle Chapter

Rose Hashimoto Seattle Chapter

Marissa Caswell Tacoma Chapter

Debra-Lee Jaap Puyallup Valley Chapter

Brienne Morris Clark County Chapter

Cynthia Sierchio Spokane Chapter

Ronaldo Rolim Tacoma Chapter

Sarah Batterson Kitsap Chapter

Cynthia Swenson Kitsap Chapter

David Pollon Eastside Chapter

Rhonda Hummel Moses Lake Chapter

Jennifer Slaughter Spokane Chapter

Patrick Markx Eastside Chapter

Misha Young Lynden Chapter

Tom Hicks Walla Walla Chapter

Rose Beattie Mount Rainier Chapter

Neil Bacon Edmonds Chapter Elizabeth Scott Yakima Ellensburg Chapter

Heather Krane Clark County Chapter

Samantha Schneider Tri-Cities Chapter

Nick Dittoe Snohomish Chapter

Ann Arney Seattle Chapter

Chuyi Chen Seattle Chapter

Mayalisa Bordenkircher Pullman Chapter

Valerie Ross Clark County Chapter

Zeru Wang Spokane Chapter

Ye Zhang Eastside, Seattle Chapters

San Sung Aum Olympia Chapter

Chien-Lin Lu Seattle Chapter

Suzetta Glenn Edmonds Chapter

Etsuko Tomeda Lynden Chapter

Jenna McCormick South King County Chapter

Linda Gaines Snohomish Chapter

Thomas Effinger Clark County, Snohomish Chapters

CHAPTER NEWS

EASTSIDE MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION (EMTA) NANCY DRAKE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP CONCERT

January 27, 2023 · 7:00 pm · Eastside Church: 14520 100th Ave, Bothell, WA 98041

COREY HAMM IN CONCERT

Works by Bach, Scriabin, Kapustin, Psathas, Keith Jarred



For tickets, please contact Yunbo Cassady at conanima63@gmail.com.



LOIS WHITNER STUDENT STUDY GRANTS

Connie Hungate, Student Study Grants Chair

Do you have a serious student who is committed to music study but is struggling to continue lessons because of financial concerns? Encourage that student to apply for a WSMTA Whitner Student Study Grant! The February *Clarion* will contain an article that lists the specific requirements for applicants. Changes next year: all applications will be online and grants will be available to students currently in grades 7-11.

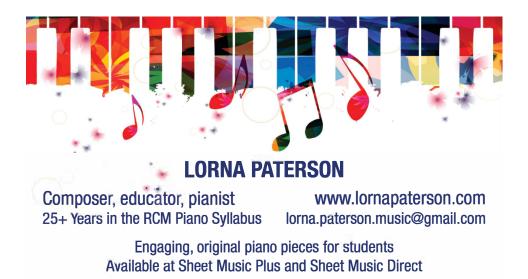
Although the past few years have brought a lot of change to our lives both personal and professional, one constant has been music and its power to transform, inspire, comfort, soothe, and excite. With Thanksgiving almost here, I am filled with gratitude: for our profession with its joy of igniting the love of music in young people, for MTNA/WSMTA and our local chapters with the opportunities for growth that these organizations are continuing to provide us, and for you, our amazing colleagues, whose innovative ideas and creative spirits reach out to us as we face the challenges ahead.

I am also grateful for your continuing generosity that has enabled WSMTA to establish our Lois Whitner Student Study Grant. Launched in January 2001, with our *Double Your Dollars* campaign that raised over \$8,000, our program was solidified when WSMTA received a bequest from the estate of Lois and Chet Whitner. Over time, other memorial gifts have been added to our scholarship endowment funds. Now is an especially good time to contribute as so many are struggling with financial challenges.

Donations to the Whitner Study Grant can be sent directly to our treasurer, Mary Grant at 12525 Madison Ave NE, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110.

WSMTA is a 501(c)(3) organization so all donations are fully tax-deductible. Our Student Enrichment Fund is invested conservatively and the yearly earnings are used to fund grants that help students defray the costs of music lessons, theory or composition classes, or tuition for music camps.

In June 2021 we were able to award grants to eight students totaling \$9,250. Over the past twenty years 156 Student Study grants have been awarded by WSMTA totaling \$99,485. Students of bass, cello, piano, violin, voice, and composition from all over the state have benefitted from this program, and many of our grant recipients have continued their music studies in college.





CHAPTER OF THE YEAR

Harriet West, Chapter of the Year Chair

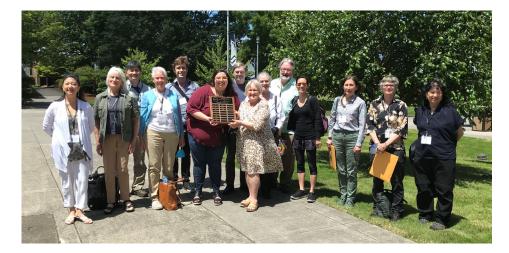
It was a beautiful (but windy!) day at WSMTA's Conference this summer to recognize and honor Seattle Chapter being selected as the 2022 Chapter of the Year! They were awarded \$500 and became the 11th Chapter to receive the award since its beginning in 2007. Continuing with Clarion articles from COY awardees, Seattle Chapter President, Katie Levine, shares the following:

The Seattle Music Teachers Association is a large chapter of nearly 150 members. We have teachers with a vast variety of backgrounds and educational interests. It is wonderful to have a community of teachers with such a diversity of knowledge and experience to share ideas with and learn from.

In this "new-normal" era of the pandemic, our chapter has been able to start hosting most events in-person. One of the most exciting parts of this is being able to get together for social events more often. Since September of this year, the membership committee of our chapter has put together Happy Hours, a Brunch, a group outing to the Seattle Symphony, and a Haunted Pub Crawl! There is also a big holiday party in the works. One of the best parts about being a member of the Seattle Chapter is getting to know all of the awesome teachers and having a great time together. The Seattle Chapter will be using the Chapter of the Year award funds to assist in running two new programs in 2023! The first is a Jazz, Rags, and Blues Festival. This is an event to celebrate and discover the diverse genre and subgenres of Jazz. It will take place in a non-competitive recital environment, and students will be encouraged to provide a short description of their piece's history before performing. The festival will be open to all instruments and levels. We hope to have a wide variety of repertoire represented, and we are excited to have an event specifically geared toward music outside of the classical tradition.

We are also having our first of what we hope will become a series of Masterclasses. In April of 2023, there will be two masterclasses divided by levels. Beginning through advanced piano students will be encouraged to participate.

Your Chapter is encouraged to begin thinking now about applying for the 2023 Chapter of the Year Award whether you've never applied, applied previously or were chosen. Information and the application can be found at wsmta.org > For Teachers. Please email me with any questions at: dhwest6@gcpower.net.





WASHINGTON STATE MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

2022 WASHINGTON STATE MTNA PERFORMANCE COMPETITION IN REVIEW

Kira Miller, NCTM, WSMTA MTNA Performance Competition Chair

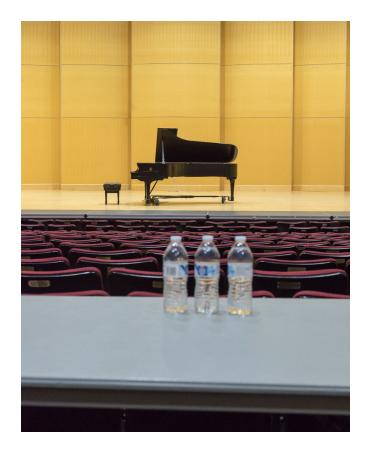
Washington State's MTNA Performance Competition was successfully completed! Congratulations to each performer, teacher and family represented! We are proud of each one of you!

We are happy to have been back in-person this year at Central Washington University in Ellensburg. The competition was held November 11-13, with winners announced upon completion of each category. Being back to Central was a joy. All of our coordinators, volunteers and judges were wonderful to spend time and work with over the three-day event.

Special thanks to area coordinators Janice Smith, NCTM, Junior Division, Mary Kaye Owen, NCTM, Senior Division, and Laura Curtis, Young Artist Division. Special thanks needs to be extended to Linda Stump, MTNA Competition Chair, as well as other national office staff, for their invaluable counsel as we relearned how to hold an in-person event.

We are immensely grateful for the knowledge and guidance of the team at CWU for their assistance with facilities and all the details that happen behind the scenes. Thanks are given to Bonnie Hendrickson, Scheduling Coordinator, Anne Smethurst, Department of Music Office Assistant, and Allen Larsen, Media Producer Lead. Their assistance was paramount.

Appreciation needs to be extended to Kathy Mortensen, WSMTA President, Colleen Hunter, NCTM, WSMTA President-elect, Mary Grant, WSMTA Treasurer, Samantha Yeung, WSMTA Communications Coordinator, Carrie Kahler, Administrative Coordinator, and Cherie Felts, OAPC Chair, Jani Stoehr, NCTM, Volunteers' Coordinator, and Krista Seely, Beverage and Food Coordinator.



This event could not have occurred without each of you.

Holding an in-person competition has been challenging and refreshing. 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 is available on the state website.

There were 91 entries in 12 divisions.

- Piano: Junior, Senior, Senior Duet, Young Artist
- **String:** Junior, Senior, Young Artist (violin, cello, and string bass)
- Woodwind: Junior (oboe), Senior (flute, oboe), Young Artist (flute)



- Brass: Young Artist (tuba)
- **Vocal:** Senior (soprano, tenor)

The state winners will now prepare videos for the Northwest Division Competition round, which will be held online. Division Winners will then move onto the National Competition at the MTNA National Conference in Reno in March 2023.

Judges for the 2022 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. Fabio Menchetti, NCTM, Washington State University
- Jeffrey Gilliam, NCTM, Western Washington University

• Dr. Lark Powers, NCTM, Pacific Lutheran University

String Division:

- Quinn Price, Private Instructor
- Dr. Jeffrey Bell-Hanson, Pacific Lutheran University
- Rachel Nesvig, Private Instructor

Woodwind and Brass Division:

• Dr. Edwin C. Powell, Pacific Lutheran University

Vocal Division:

• Joy Dorsch, Grays Harbor College

Composition Division:

- Donald F. Goodwin, Eastern Washington University
- Terry McQuilkin, University of Oregon
- Gregory Youtz, Pacific Lutheran University





MTNA PERFORMANCE COMPETITION WASHINGTON STATE RESULTS

Kira Miller, MTNA Performance Competition Chair

JUNIOR PIANO

Winner Kyle Yeung, student of Sasha Starcevich

Alternate Nicholas Grote, student of Peter Mack, NCTM and Ni Liu

Honorable Mentions Daniel Beal, student of Barbara Miller Emily Qi, student of Ekaterina Melkamini

JUNIOR STRING

Winner Jesse Krentz, cello, student of Kevin Krentz

Alternate Jaewon Lee, cello, student of Sounglim Lee

Honorable Mentions Anthony Kim, student of Kevin Krentz Leyan Gao, student of Simon James

JUNIOR WOODWIND

Representative Antonia Elliott, student of Julie Wade

SENIOR WOODWIND

Winner Minoo Jang, flute, student of Mary Lynch VanderKolk

Alternate Claire Meng, flute, student of Bonnie Blanchard

SENIOR PIANO

Winner Jonathan Zheng, student of Peter Mack, NCTM

Alternate Nathaniel Zhang, student of Sasha Starcevich

Honorable Mentions Daniel Jung, student of Donna Bender and Oksana Ejokina, NCTM Jeslyn Cai, student of Peter Mack, NCTM and Karlyn Brett

SENIOR STRING

Winner Eric Schindler, cello, student of Kevin Krentz

Alternate Seohyun Hwang, violin, student of Ron Patterson

Honorable Mentions

Anderson Widjaja, string bass, student of Patrick Marckx Rachel Jung, violin, student of Simon James

SENIOR VOICE

Winner Olivia Qi, soprano, student of Shan Han

Alternate Carrie Huang, soprano, student of Shan Han

Honorable Mentions Qiwu Yin, tenor, student of Shan Han Mason Zhang, tenor, student of Shan Han



SENIOR PIANO DUET

Winner Minjae Kim and Hyunjae Kim, students of Allan Park

Alternate Hyun Yoon and Patrick Yoon, students of Allan Park

YOUNG ARTIST PIANO

Winner Terri Ji, student of Regina Yeh, NCTM

Alternate Alexander Fang, student of Craig Sheppard

Honorable Mention Ella Kalinchenko, student of Oksana Ejokina, NCTM

YOUNG ARTIST BRASS

Representative Jordan George, tuba, student of Christopher Dickey

YOUNG ARTIST STRING

Winner Joel Lee, cello, student of John Michel

Alternate Bernadette Phillips, cello, student of John Michel

Honorable Mention Thomas Ortega, cello, student of John Michel

YOUNG ARTIST WOODWIND

Representative Anthony Kandilaroff, flute, student of Sophia Tegart

MTNA COMPOSITION COMPETITION WASHINGTON STATE RESULTS

Nathan Campbell, MTNA Composition Competition Chair

ELEMENTARY COMPOSITION

Winner Raymond Zhou, student of Tatiana Sharapova

Honorable Mention Zoey Feng, student of Meng Wang

JUNIOR COMPOSITION

Winner Ian LaFontaine, student of Kathy Edsill-Charles, NCTM

Honorable Mention Winston Chan, student of Sharon Van Valin, NCTM

SENIOR COMPOSITION

Winner Elisa Johnson, student of Heather Howland

Honorable Mention

Rachael Kim, student of Sharon Van Valin, NCTM



RECAP OF THE OUTSTANDING ARTIST PIANO COMPETITION (OAPC)

Cherie Felts, OAPC Chair

The Outstanding Artist Piano Competition was an in -person event once again! It was so good to meet and greet everybody in Ellensburg! It was a full 2.5 days of performances, beginning Friday and continuing through Sunday morning. There were a total of 39 student performances, 19 students in the Junior Division and 20 in the Senior Division, representing 18 teachers.

I would like to thank Krista Seely, Chair of the WSMTA Education Board, for her encouragement to me and for making sure the team there was fed well for snacks and lunchtimes; to Carrie Kahler, WSMTA Administrative Coordinator, for her help with registrations; to Kathy Mortensen, our WSMTA President for her support and communication; to Kira Miller, for being the Washington State MTNA Performance Competition Chair and for her communication with the support staff at CWU especially. Thank you also to Jani Stoehr, 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. Thank you also to Dr. Jay Mauchley for proofreading the printed program to ensure as much accuracy as possible! I 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 2022 OAPC Judges: Dr. William Chapman Nyaho, NCTM, Dr. Eneida Larti, NCTM, and Dr. Kay Zavislak, NCTM. It was a pleasure to work with them!

Our Monitors this year were Patti Robertson, NCTM, and Jani Stoehr, NCTM and they were awesome and a great part of our team!



2022 OAPC Judges: Dr. Eneida Larti, NCTM, Dr. William Chapman Nyaho, NCTM, and Dr. Kay Zavislak, NCTM





OUTSTANDING ARTIST PIANO COMPETITION (OAPC) RESULTS

Cherie Felts, OAPC Chair

Junior Division (age 11-14)

First Place Maria Horja, student of Judith Widrig

Second Place Avah Girges, student of Oksana Ejokina

Third Place Enzo Zhao, student of Oksana Ejokina

Honorable Mentions (unranked) Avery Pun, student of Ni Liu Hanen Guo, student of Donna Bender Arabelle Grote, student of Peter Mack and Ni Liu Ashley Zong, student of Alexandra Tsirkel Yuyang Liu, student of Sasha Starcevich

Senior Division (age 15-18)

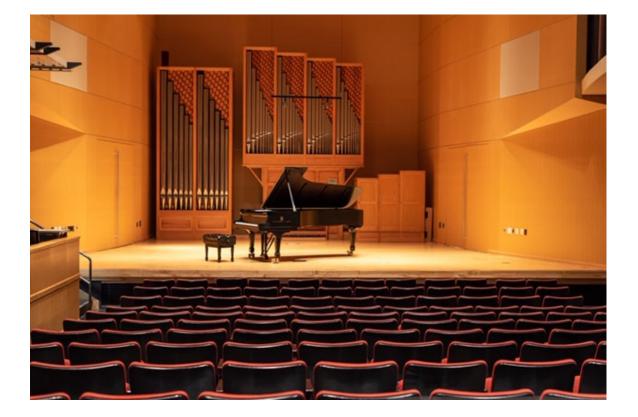
First Place Eric Yuze Ma, student of Peter Mack

Second Place Nathan Zhao, student of Peter Mack

Third Place Sarah Girges, student of Oksana Ejokina

Honorable Mentions (unranked)

Yechong (Eric) Shan, student of Ivona Kaminska Bowlby and Alexander Tutunov Michelle Cao, student of Sasha Starcevich Alan Ying, student of Sasha Starcevich Hanjia Sarah Guo, student of Donna Bender Ella Sumanaseni, student of Donna Bender and Christopher Janwong McKiggan





PEDAL POINTS Do Your Students a Favor—Teach them to Play the Organ!



Joann Richardson, NCTM Organ Chair

Do you have piano students who love to perform? Would you like for your students to become wellrounded musicians? Then do them a favor introduce them to the organ. Organists are in short supply, and therefore, in high demand. In most church positions the organist frequently is called upon to play the piano. However, without organ skills, the candidate is not even considered which, of course, means that there would be no opportunity to perform on either the piano or the organ!

Church positions require skills in collaborative playing, harmonization, and improvisation, to name a few, thereby developing musicianship skills that are often missed in classical piano training. This is in addition to the vast amount of solo repertoire that must be prepared and played on a weekly basis. In my current position, I am required to play four solo selections of organ or piano repertoire in addition to playing hymns, liturgical music, and any collaborative pieces (with choir, vocalists, or instrumentalists). How many classically-trained pianists do you know who perform like this every week? How many classically-trained organists do you know who don't?

Organ skills often lead to other work as a musician. The local symphony needs an organist and you are called. A chamber music concert is planned– can you play the continuo part? Oh, you play the piano, too, people realize. Next thing you know the calls start coming in for collaborative work with school choirs, with vocal and instrumental soloists, with ballet schools. Do you teach? Next thing you know you are receiving calls from prospective students. Ours is a business that relies on visibility and referrals.

So do your students a favor- teach them to play the organ. The ability to play the organ can open doors for them to perform in rich and varied ways as a musician in the community.

Music Artistry Program (MAP) for Organ

Did you miss the preliminary deadline to let me know that you have students for the organ MAP? Not to worry—if you register your students by January 15, 2023 (on the WSMTA website), they can still participate. The MAP for Organ is scheduled for early March 2023 as an online event. Our visiting artist is Dr. Jill Schneider. The only way for this program to grow and improve is through your participation and feedback, so I hope you'll give it a go this year.



YOUNG COMPOSERS PROJECT

Frances Goei, NCTM 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 number of students participating this coming year.

- 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 on December 1, 2022 and the deadline is February 22, 2023.

2023 YOUNG COMPOSERS PROJECT

ENTRIES DUE FEBRUARY 22, 2023

OPEN TO GRADES K-12

CASH PRIZES FOR WINNERS

MORE INFO WWW.WSMTA.ORG



MUSIC ARTISTRY PROGRAM (MAP) MAP Registration is Now Open!



Jason Kuo WSMTA MAP Chair

MAP registration is now open! For event dates and registration deadlines, please check with your Chapter MAP Chairs. To register for events online, simply go to www.wsmta.org, login, and go to your Member Dashboard.

Few quick reminders:

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 event per order (checkout). If you have students in several MAP events, please keep the students separated so that each checkout contains only one event. We need to track the income and expenses for each event separately. Thank you very much for your cooperation.

3. Teachers must register for consultation for every event their students participate in, even if only registering one student. **4. You may register for MAP events that are outside of your chapter.** For example, if your chapter does not offer a voice event, you may register in another voice event nearby. Please contact the MAP Chair of the event in advance, so you are on their email contact list.

5. Send Student Chapter Fee/Teacher Chapter Fee separately to your Chapter MAP Chair. Our online registration system does not collect Student Chapter Fee or Teacher Chapter Fee. These fees vary from chapter to chapter. Please contact your Chapter MAP Chair on where to send these fees.

6. We are unable to refund fees due to illness or cancellation. You may substitute students or redistribute the time slot for other students in your studio.

WSMTA Office Holiday: December 22-January 2. 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 lockout, WSMTA office will be closed for the holidays between Dec 22 - Jan 2. We will not be able to respond to your emails until Jan 3.



High School Credit Update. Thanks to the effort of Tien-Yin Chen of Edmonds Chapter, we found out that Everett School District (Cascade HS, Everett HS, Henry M. Jackson HS, and Sequoia HS) actually mentions our High School Credit program in their school policy! Below is the latest list of school districts that recognize our HS Credit program:

- Everett (maximum 2 credits, pass/fail only)
- Anacortes
- Mount Vernon
- Hanford
- Ellensburg (0.25 credit per semester, pass/ fail only)
- Kettle Falls
- Colville
- Kennewick
- Covenant High School (private school in Tacoma)
- WAVA K12 (Washington Virtual Academies)
- Homeschooled students

Unfortunately Northshore, Prosser, and Tacoma School Districts would not this year. I would like to thank **Roxanne Kar, Rebecca Cook** and **Jacqueline Block** and several parents who spearheaded the effort to engage the school districts to recognize our program.

If you would like to do some research on the school policy in your neighborhood, I recommend that you look up on the internet the High School Graduation Requirement from the school district, usually called 2410P, and see if there is a section that mentions **WAC 392-410-300, Learning Experiences Conducted Away from School or by Persons not Employed by the District.** Below is an excerpt from Everett School District's 2410P, Section IV:

F. Music

Students participating in private music lessons with a teacher who is a member of the Washington State Music Teachers' Association are eligible to receive high school credit for their lesson and practice time. Students are eligible to receive up to two (2) credits for this activity as per the out-of-district correspondence course limitation. This credit will be granted if the following requirements are met:

- A student must apply to the building principal for credit eligibility prior to the start of the semester for which credit is desired. The Washington State Music Teachers' Association Form, "Request for credit for Applied Music Experience away from high school by persons not employed by the district" shall be used for this purpose.
- 2. A minimum of one hundred fifty (150) hours of practice and lesson time must be documented to qualify for 1.0 high school credit. Students must complete and document one hundred fifty (150) hours of activity on a log that is signed by the adult supervisor. All hours must be completed within six (6) months of the start date. Hours will not carry over.
- 3. Upon completion of study and examination, the examiner will submit a completed Washington State Music Teachers' Association Form C-8, "Report on Applied Music Study," to the principal so that the grade may be recorded on the student's permanent record. Transcripts of those students eligible to receive such credit will indicate a satisfactory (S) only, not a letter grade.

If you have received your NCTM certification and would like to engage your local high schools about granting high school credit to your students for studying with you, please contact Jason at jason.kuo@gmail.com. In addition to our High School Credit Packet, I have written a sample coverletter that you can customize to approach school counselors or other administrators.



MUSIC LITERACY PROGRAM Getting Started with the Music Literacy Program



Melanie Stroud, NCTM WSMTA Music Literacy Program Chair

Have you wanted to enter students in the Music Literacy Program, but aren't sure how to begin? Well, let me give you a peek into how I prepare my students for the exams. Our event in Kitsap is in April, so in January, I start having students take practice exams in all of the various areas. There are practice rhythm examples for free on Wendy Stevens' site at www.composecreate.com. She also has practice theory and sight reading exams available for purchase. She was on the committee that created our exams, so the formatting is exactly like our exams.

You could also create your own practice exams by using our updated curriculum guide: https://wsmta.org/programs-for-students/ musicianship-examinations.

I take all of my prep materials and do one thing a week at lessons, so it only takes a few minutes. By the time we get to the date of our MLP, my students have clapped eight rhythms at their level, taken two practice sight reading tests, a practice theory test, have practiced all of the skills required for their Ear Training exams, and have played through all of their prepared scales for me. When I send them in for their exams, they feel prepared, and they know what to expect. That said, sometimes students are having a bad day, or get nervous, or any of the myriad of unexpected things that can happen. I always give my students a pep talk, and remind them that their scores are for me, nobody else. I just want them to do their best, and my goal as a teacher is to watch for any trends.

Often a fluke bad score is just that, a kid got nervous or misread the directions. For example, I had a beginning student last year who magically played her level 1 Sight Reading exam perfectly upside down. I mean, that takes talent! Other times, I realize that all or several of my students are struggling in one area, which shows me that I need to adjust something in my teaching. Case in point, all of my students struggled with hearing intervals one year, and I changed the theory curriculum I was using to incorporate more of that training, and they all improved! The Music Literacy Program is beneficial for students AND teachers. I highly encourage you to participate!



CERTIFICATION CORNER Reflecting on Who, What, and Why I Teach



Rose Freeman, NCTM Certification Chair

Can you think of a positive performance experience you've had? What makes it stand out as memorable? I'd love to hear from you. I'm presenting a new workshop to a local music teachers association this season titled, "Performance Preparation Toolkit" that highlights elements of practice one month, one week, and one day before a performance. This presentation shares approaches that establish confident memorization, efficacious practice routines, and creative mindfulness skills.

I'm sharing this with you here because the MTNA Certification Teacher Profile Projects inspired these practices! I appreciate that the Certification program continues to give me an opportunity to reflect on who I teach, what I teach, and why I teach. Working with teachers who are also achieving their Certification inspires me with each conversation. Want to join a group of teachers in your local association to pursue Certification?

Whether you teach piano, voice, violin, flute or organ, MTNA offers the Certification program for you to complete 5 teacher profile projects and receive National Certification. You can access the projects overview at https://certification.mtna.org.

Right now, Washington State Music Teachers Association offers a \$100 grant that covers half of the application cost. If you're a collegiate member, the grant covers the entire application cost for Certification.



FROM YOUR VOCAL & INSTRUMENTAL CHAIR Vive la Différence: Supporting Teachers and Students of Other Instruments Than Ours



Jane Melin, NCTM WSMTA V&I Chair

Last week I was searching out names of prospective violin teachers for a student of mine who may be moving to another part of the state. As a loyal WSMTA member, I started with some of our chapter websites. It wasn't easy to find a sorted list of teachers-by-specialty on most of the sites I visited. Some provided search-by-location, but not by instrument. Consider adding a robust search function to your "Find a Teacher" page to quickly surface teachers of specific instruments. Kudos to the Seattle Chapter for their teacher-mapping page, a particularly sophisticated model. When designing your chapter website, look at it again through the eyes of a clarinet teacher. Does it still communicate what you want it to?

Sometimes our personal-instrument "blinders" go on when we plan combined recitals of various instruments. I've learned how to assist piano students at recitals, especially the "littles" with their bench adjustments and footstools! On the flip side, here are some things I ask piano teachers to consider when preparing for instrumental and voice performances.

 Provide a side "Green Room" for tuning and warming up. These students are not going to sit down at a tuned instrument already on the stage. Allow students to warm up immediately before the recital begins: Wind instruments and voices quickly "cool down."

- 2. Have a dedicated and secure place for students to leave their cases after unpacking their instruments, even if it's in the back corner of the performance space.
- 3. Allow time for instrumentalists to thoroughly tune to the piano before the performance. This can save time during the recital itself.
- 4. Consider the piano's location relative to the edge of the stage: Where will accompanied





vocalists/instrumentalists stand? (Answer: It should usually be just in front of the bend of a grand piano, but some beginner students will be used to standing directly to the right of their accompanist.) Allow enough room for arm movements (bowed strings) and larger instruments, and a music stand (see below). Avoid putting flower arrangements, large lecterns, amplifiers, etc. in this floor space.

- 5. Do you need to provide an armless chair for a cello player? Multiple music stands for ensembles?
- 6. Where will the music stand go? Will someone help the student adjust it to their proper height and orientation to the audience if their hands are full of music and their instrument? Can it be moved out of the audience's sightlines when a piano student comes up to play?
- 7. Piano lid planning: full stick, short stick or no stick? For students on fractional-size string

instruments, young singers, etc., no-stick is usually necessary. For most other students, short -stick provides better balance than fully-open, especially if it's a large grand piano. Have an adult assigned to {carefully} raise or lower the lid throughout the recital as different students come up to play.

Speaking of music stand orientation, it varies depending on the instrument played. Most singers and instrumentalists will face the audience with a stand in front of them, but violin and viola players should be at a 45- to 90-degree angle to the audience, facing away from the pianist, for maximum sound projection from their instrument.

It's so important that we don't fall victim to "tunnel vision" around our preferred instrument and end up with one-size-fits-all websites and recitals. Let's open our eyes to our differences, and celebrate them!



TEACHER ENRICHMENT

INDEPENDENT MUSIC TEACHERS FORUM No Unanswered Questions: Recap of the IMTF Session at Conference Part Three, The "Self-Care Segment"



"It's the most wonderful time of the year," so the song goes. Yes, and for many of us it's often the most stressful time of year. We hold holiday recitals; we make plans for the new year of teaching; we get our business and tax files in order; many of us teach a good portion of December – and that's just our work life!

RoseMarie Tamburri IMTF Chair

Add in holiday preparations, family and social gatherings, travel, community events, and so much more. It can be a challenge striking a balance between our professional and personal lives!

It's no surprise that the fabulous group of attendees at the IMTF Session produced a lengthy list of suggestions and strategies for practicing "Self-Care," not just during the holiday season but throughout the year. The ideas ranged from the practical to the playful; from the physical to the emotional and spiritual.

Let's Start with the Practical:

When stressors in our life rear their ugly head, taking a step back can bring perspective.

- Manage expectations.
- Regularly "check in" with self.
- Be self-aware. Recognize the signs of burnout.
- Schedule breaks (between students, activities, major projects).
- Set boundaries.
- Set small goals to reach larger ones.

The "Body Knows!"

Taking care of your body is crucial during stressful times. Here are some ideas for physical renewal.

- Get a massage.
- Schedule exercise:
- \Rightarrow Yoga/Pilates
- \Rightarrow Dance
- \Rightarrow Kickbox
- ⇒ Do "Joyful" Movement: Walk, Hike, Bike (Dance!)
- Breathe! Take a few moments to breathe deeply and stretch. We remind our students to breathe when they play (no matter the instrument).
 Follow your own advice!
- Prioritize rest.
- Take a sauna/ice bath.
- Make time for a good, healthy meal; eat better snacks.
- Get a haircut!

Mind/Soul Over Matter:

Taking even a few minutes (or more if you can) every day to connect with your deeper self is an effective antidote to stress.

- Meditate.
- Have coffee or lunch with a friend.
- Be in nature. Drink your coffee or tea outside, weather permitting!
- Journal.
- Draw.
- Attend chapter meetings or events—throughout the year. Be inspired, connect with colleagues, and continuously learn.
- If needed, seek help from a professional therapist. A benefit of your MTNA membership is the "Better Help" program. Visit the MTNA website to learn more about this valuable resource. You will need to sign in with your MTNA member number to access the information.

Last, but not least: make joyful music—with yourself and others!



2023 MTNA FOUNDATION FELLOW NOMINEE Students Speak in Support

Peter Mack, NCTM, WSMTA MTNA Foundation Fellow Chair

In the last *Clarion*, WSMTA was 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." Since that announcement was made, several of his students have written to WSMTA to say what an incredible teacher Dr. Pickett is.

Valerie Campbell talks of Dr. Pickett as "a deeply wise and inspirational teacher. His belief in me as his student has changed my life"

Nicole Becerra says, "Dr. Pickett is an incredible teacher that commands the absolute best work from his students. Under his tutelage their personal best continues to reach new heights, and they find themselves playing at a level they never thought possible."

Thomas Effinger writes, "Dr. Pickett is a living model for excellence as an artist-teacher. He has an extraordinary was of making you feel loved, supported, and capable of accomplishing great things". He says Dr. Pickett "opened my eyes to the incredible interconnectedness of humankind, and the role that music plays in our world."

Rachel C Riddle described Dr. Pickett as "an incredible teacher... fully committed to his students' success. He always demands the best from his students, and he invests in his students so that they are able to achieve their absolute best... His lessons will continue to guide my musical and pianistic pursuits throughout my entire life."

These are only small excerpts from the wonderful



Dr. John Pickett

letters Dr. Pickett's students have written to support his nomination. Such a wonderful teacher clearly deserves our complete support. To celebrate each fellowship, charitable contributions are 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. To contribute to the MTNA foundation fund, and to help secure John Pickett's fellowship, please 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.

Thank you for supporting this wonderful nominee!



COMMISSIONED COMPOSER OF THE YEAR An Update on our 2022, 2023, and 2024 Commissioned Composers



Louise Nedela, NCTM 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 and is then submitted to a panel of recognized composers for selection of the MTNA Distinguished Composer of the Year.

WSMTA Commissioned Composer Updates

The 2022 WSMTA commissioned piece by Shlomo Farber has been forwarded to MTNA for consideration for the Distinguished Composer of the Year. We wish him success on an excellent piece: *Nocturne for Cello and Piano*, performed by Jenny Peterson, piano, and David Eby, cello. This piece was also performed on the September Noon-Time concert series at the Old Church in Portland. It can be viewed on their YouTube channel. Please also see the September *Clarion* for more information about our 2023 Commissioned Composer, Sean Osborn. His commissioned piece will be performed at the WSMTA Conference in June 2023. Watch for further information in later *Clarion* issues.

To reach composers across the state of Washington, the CCOY project will again be open to all Washington composers who meet the requirements of the project. The Call for Composers for 2024 will be in the February/March edition of the *Clarion*, but it is not too early for composers to be thinking of exploring this exciting venture. The WSMTA State Commissioned Composer of the Year is a coveted award for composers, and all state CCOYs are considered for the MTNA National award. Please see the September 2022 *Clarion* or the WSMTA website for more information. If anyone wishes to nominate a composer (especially those who might not see the *Clarion*), please contact me with your nomination and I will reach out to the composers.

Attention past CCOYs: we would like to include your commissioned piece on the WSMTA website via a link. Please contact Louise Nedela at louisenedela@gmail.com for more information.



WSMTA HALL OF FAME Call for Nominations: December 10 Deadline is Approaching Fast!



Chris VanBuskirk Hall of Fame Chair

November is gone, fall has fallen, and the holidays are upon us. The deadline for Hall of Fame nominees is December 10 and no one has been nominated at all for this next year. I ask that you would consider nominating a deserving person, who has inspired you to continue pressing into teaching with excellence and all that goes with this wonderful profession.

Keep the flame alive 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: https://wsmta.org/teacher-programs/hall-of-fame.

At least three letters of recommendation are requested, and they can be from your chapter

president, a colleague, a parent, or even a present or former student. Again, the deadline for 2023 Hall of Fame nominee entries is December 10, 2022.

All nominee application and information, letters of recommendation and photos can be mailed to me at my address below, or sent to me by email, at classickeys@comcast.net. Please include a good photo of your nominee.

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.

Please return the completed nominee applications to WSMTA Hall of Fame Chair:

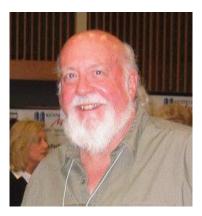
Chris VanBuskirk 2502 N Cedar St., Tacoma, WA. 98406 classickeys@comcast.net

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



IN MEMORY OF GARY HIND

Kathy Mortensen, WSMTA President



Gary Hind, former Editor of the Clarion, passed away in September. He will be remembered for his many years of service to WSMTA. He was very conscientious about his job as Editor and always on the lookout for information to be included. In 2016, he

Gary Hind

retired after editing the Clarion for more than 12 years. He gave his time and skills to keep us informed and connected, and provide an historical account of our association.

Gary came to Poulsbo from Juneau, Alaska and joined the Kitsap Chapter. He had many stories of

his time working in Alaska before coming to Washington. Gary's background was in art, piano, composition, and architecture. He enjoyed sharing his wide range of musical talents and interests with his students and colleagues. His students performed in numerous honors recitals locally and at the state conferences. Gary co-chaired the 2008 WSMTA Conference in Bremerton.

Desktop publishing was all the rage in the late 1990s, and Gary took it up as a new hobby. His snazzy redesign of the Kitsap Chapter newsletter, Quavers, caught the eye of then WSMTA President, Debra Florian, NCTM. Soon after, Gary was drafted into service as editor of the Clarion. He worked with the state board to update and redesign the newsletter to be more compatible with changes in technology, and created the online color edition we enjoy today. He was a master at juggling the layout like a thousand piece puzzle! He will be missed.



IN MEMORY OF MARCIA WILKE

Marcia Wilke passed away

morning of September 9,

Wheatland Village. She was

Christopher. She is survived

by her daughters, Cate Lyon

and Allison Blankenship; as

preceded in death by her husband, Norm; and son,

quietly in her sleep the

2022, in her home at

Darcie Cramer, Walla Walla Chapter Member



Marcia Wilke

well as five grandchildren.

Marcia's early years were spent in Westfield, NY. She completed her undergraduate degree at Hood College in Maryland and remained a fervent supporter of the school until her death. She completed her education with a master's degree in Music.

After moving to Walla Walla, Marcia met her husband, Norm Wilke. They married in 1963 and had a long and loving marriage of 52 years. Music was Marcia's life. Her many years in music centered around her service at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Walla Walla—working as the youth choir director and organist; creating and directing children's musicals; establishing and directing the St. Paul's handbell and chimes choirs; as well as working tirelessly to produce First Thursday Concerts to bring music to the community. As her children were growing up, Marcia spent some summers at the Episcopal Diocese of Spokane's Camp Cross, coordinating and serving as a resource director at Music, Arts and Drama (MAD) Camp. Her passion for music was also reflected in her work. When Marcia first arrived in Walla Walla, she taught piano at Whitman College and also as a private piano teacher giving lessons out of her home.

Service to community was important to Marcia. This was reflected in the numerous organizations to which she gave her time: Music Teachers National Association (serving as the Washington State Music Teachers Association President from 1993-1995), Engineer's Wives Club (her late husband, Norm, spent his career at the Walla Walla Corps of Engineers), the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers, and the American Guild of Organists.

She was an active advocate for MusicLink, an organization that provides music lessons to deserving students with financial challenges. Marcia was also very active in the everyday life of the residents of Wheatland Village.

We in the Walla Walla Chapter miss her words of wisdom and her enthusiasm. She was much loved by her church, her community, her students and her colleagues. Rest well, Marcia.



INFORMATION & ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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
1/3 Page Square	5.2 W x 4.375 H
Half Page	8.5 W x 5.5 H
Full Page	8.5 W x 11 H

\$50/\$25 \$50/\$25 \$75/\$50 \$150/\$100

Reduced rate for six issues: purchase five ad placements, receive one • free

375 H

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

Upcoming Deadlines

January 5, 2023 for the February/March 2023 Clarion March 5, 2023 for the April/May 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.

THE CLARION ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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