

MONTANA MUSIC NEWS



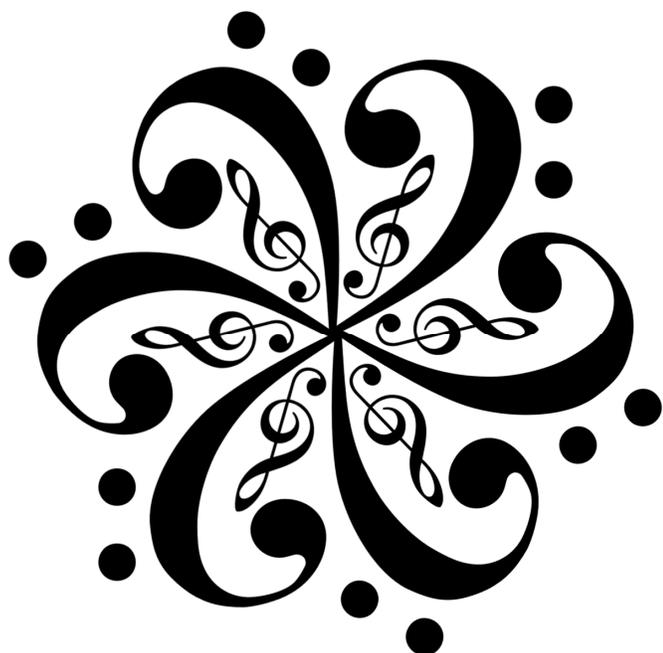
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National Association*

Spring 2018

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Message from the President



Dear Friends and Colleagues:

I hope that spring will soon arrive in your corner of the state and that your teaching year has been a rewarding one thus far! It was wonderful to see so many of you at our state conference in Billings in November despite the treacherous roads. Our state conferences always provide me with so much inspiration and renewed sense of purpose, and I left our Billings conference with so many practical ideas that have been put into fruitful practice in my studio.

Although I have been pondering many of our conference sessions in the intervening months, Julie Gosswiller and her students' presentation on engaging millennial students has been on my mind recently. Perhaps because I have teens at home, or perhaps because my studio has more middle and high school students than ever before, this session was particularly impactful for me. Dr. Gosswiller painted a picture of a generation of young people who are compassionate, invested in positive change, and keenly aware of the importance of music. In short, these young people are the perfect target audience - avid and engaged consumers and students of the arts once hooked.

According to Julie's presentation, millennials age 15 to 37 now comprise the largest generation in the country. These young people are overwhelmingly interested in social justice and equality, finding purpose in their lives and work, and seeking interpersonal connections. Because music is so easily accessible to this tech-savvy generation, live musical performances must be truly unique to speak to them. Tradition for tradition's sake is far less interesting than fresh sounds and approaches, and technically exceptional performances that create personal experiences and connections can truly transform them.

I had the opportunity to witness this kind of engagement earlier this fall when my two teen daughters attended a performance of Time for Three as part of the All State program with hundreds of other high school students from around the state. Time for Three is a crossover string trio which features original compositions and classical-pop mash ups performed with exceptional artistic quality. In addition to fine musicianship, the group offered a connection to their young audience that was new and fresh, and I have rarely witnessed a more invested and responsive crowd. After the performance, my daughters came home and started their own string quartet with a group of orchestra friends, creating and arranging their own pieces that combine classical repertoire with popular styles. They had a truly transformational experience.

As teachers, the changing tides of culture can be difficult to navigate, but staying engaged, keeping current, and meeting students where they are now and not where we may be comfortable keeps our studios – and our associations - full of life and vigor. After all, music is meant to change both the giver and the receiver, and it is our responsibility to reinvigorate our teaching and remain relevant to those we serve.

So turn on the radio. Surf YouTube. Incorporate educationally friendly and technically challenging modern music into your teaching, recitals, and local festivals and demand a high standard of performance on that repertoire. Look at content created by the talented and invested artists of tomorrow. Share what you find with your students. Show them how the great artists and teachers of the past span an unbroken line of connection to the present. Any investment in engagement with this bright, compassionate, and driven generation will be rewarded tenfold.

I am looking forward to seeing many of you (along with Time for Three!) at the MTNA National Conference in Orlando in March! I hope all of you will also set aside time to join us for our 2018 state conference in Missoula from November 1-3, where we will host world renowned artist and pedagogue, Dr. Peter Takács. It is sure to be a transformational weekend!

All the best,

Jessica Olson
MSMTA President



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News from the 2017 MSMTA Conference

Rhythm and Latin American Music: Developing Rhythmic Sense and Timing through Latin American Piano Pieces **Dr. Alejandro Cremaschi**

During his first conference session, Dr. Cremaschi presented helpful ideas for introducing strong rhythmic fluency in students. Developing a steady pulse is the first step in rhythmic development, just as rhythm is the first stepping stone to musical competency. Dr. Cremaschi suggested using rhythmic words to aid in internalization, and he often asks his students to march to a steady beat while clapping and speaking particular rhythms. He also asks students to dictate increasingly complex rhythmic patterns by placing markings over particular beats in the measure while he claps a pattern. Conducting can also be an effective way to engage the body, and he stressed that any rhythm practice should also include melodic shaping.

Dr. Cremaschi cited the work of Pedro de Alcantara, who teaches that patterns of preparation, stress, and release create individuality in music. The varied rhythmic patterns of Latin American music can be very effective for internalizing rhythm, and Dr. Cremaschi discussed the particular rhythmic attributes of various Latin American styles, such as the Habanera, Tango, Milonga, and Salsa. He discussed the cultural backgrounds of each style, its signature rhythmic attributes, and gave a multitude of engaging repertoire examples.

Spanish Piano Music: What Makes it Spanish? **Dr. Susanne Skyrn**

Dr. Skyrn's session focused on the unique attributes of Spanish music and ways it may be introduced to enrich piano study. She discussed the influence of guitar sounds and techniques, the percussive effects of castanets, and the signature musical elements and cadences that distinguish Spanish music. Dr. Skyrn introduced the cultural background and influence of Flamenco, and presented video examples of this rhythmically complex and often tragic song form.

Dr. Skyrn discussed the distinctive rhythmic and harmonic elements of Spanish music, including cross rhythms and hemiolas, varied accent patterns, use of phrygian mode, and the Andalusian cadence. She concluded by presenting a number of effective pieces in Spanish style that may be introduced to piano students of varying levels.

Building a Better Base in the Bass: Building a Secure Foundation **UM Keyboard Society**

The UM Keyboard Society gave an informative and polished presentation on ways that pianists can develop their left hand. The presentation began with both cultural and subconscious reasons the left hand may be neglected in development and presented strategies for skill building. Early introduction of pieces like inventions require students to build control and technical facility in the left hand, and many repertoire suggestions were shared, both for building control in the left hand and for students who may have injuries or limited right hand capability. The presentation concluded with examples of performers who flourished using only their left hand, along with composers who wrote music for the left hand only.

Teaching Beyond the Notes: Instilling Artistry in Your Students **Dr. Alejandro Cremaschi**

Dr. Cremaschi began his second session by playing five excerpts and asking attendees to assign visual and emotional elements to each. He demonstrated how each mood or emotion is produced by particular sounds and that these expressive cues are understood by both the performer and listener. Dr. Cremaschi emphasized the importance of demonstration, and pointed out that often "you cannot hear it if you cannot do it; you cannot do it if you do not hear it."

He went on to discuss the generative (structural) and emotional rules that exist in western music, and explained how mature performers bend these rules to create surprise, tension, or relaxation. Generative rules for expressiveness in music may include accenting strong beats, shaping legato lines in arches, placing ritardandos at the ends of sections or phrases, balancing melody and accompaniment, and changing pedal with changes in harmony. Dr. Cremaschi presented in-depth strategies for modeling and teaching these principles, such as immersing students in oral tradition, frequent demonstration, and expressive repertoire. He pointed out that expressive playing should be required from the very first piece, and teachers should never be content with "just the notes." Because technique and expression are inextricably linked, developing a holistic technical approach also improves artistry.

Dr. Cremaschi presented a number of expressive rules and ways to teach them in real world settings, including shaping, balance, voicing, technique, loud sound, subdivision of beats in slow pieces, phrasing in fast passages, rubato, repetition, inertia, the value of simplicity, rhythmic playing, and use of the una corda. A number of useful online and print resources were presented to help teachers achieve higher levels of artistry with their students.

Teacher Success: An Inside Job
Dave Meldahl, M. Ed.

Dave Meldahl's session focused on how to become a more effective teacher by becoming more effective on an interpersonal level. According to Mr. Meldahl, teachers are all leaders, and leadership skills can be improved by knowing our ideal selves and pausing to align ourselves with this ideal. Because we become what we think about, it is important to be sure that our thoughts lead us toward the person we want to become. Emotional intelligence is the greatest indicator of success in leadership.

Ineffective leaders often blame others for their own failures or view their success as dependent on the actions of others. Effectiveness increases when we practice self-awareness and self-leadership. Every interaction with a student either snuffs or fans their inner flame of potential, so we must guard our behavior carefully.

Dave guided the group through a values exercise where attendees identified our five most important personal values. Principles are often universal and cut across cultures, but our values can be quite individual. We were asked to create actionable statements from each of our values, review them several times each day, and take time every day to pause and align ourselves to these values.

I See You: A Millennial Perspective
Dr. Julie Gosswiller and MSU Students

Julie Gosswiller, Erin Equall, and Trevor Weaver presented research on the musical preferences, consumption, and engagement of the millennial generation. Millennials range in age from age 15-37, and they are the largest and most diverse generation in the population. According to Ms. Equall, exposure to classical music and the arts from an early age through parents, school, and community is critical for millennials to become engaged. Providing a balance of classical and the popular styles millennials are surrounded by is essential, as is having some degree of free choice in the music they prefer to study.

The presenters suggested several types of performances that may be used as gateways for this generation, including film music, mash-ups like those created by Stereo Hide Out, apps like EnCue, and multimedia and interactive performances. Because millennials are surrounded by access to performances of all kinds, live performances must be extra special and are most effective when they incorporate personal connections, unconventional performance practices, and music they can connect with.

According to the presenters, it is very important to encourage millennial students to take the time to enjoy life. Teaching the “why” and not just the “what” is essential for successful connection to this generation of students. The session concluded with two beautiful pieces performed by the presenters.

Gems of the Intermediate Concerto Repertoire
Dr. Karen Beres, NCTM, and Dr. Christopher Hahn, NCTM

Dr. Hahn and Dr. Beres presented an informative session on their new book, *The Pianist's Guide to Standard Teaching and Performance Concertos*, recently published by Alfred Publications. The presentation began with background on the book's inception, key information included in the book, including dates, keys, publishers, movements, and levels, and ideas for procuring out of print pieces.

Drs. Beres and Hahn detailed several benefits gained by including concerto repertoire in piano study and offered creative uses for collaborative pieces in the studio. Concerto study provides students with variety and fun, offers avenues for musical development, and introduces ensemble playing in accessible ways while building confidence and pride and preparing students for the major works of the repertoire.

The session concluded with a number of appealing repertoire examples from the book in a variety of levels and styles, with selections ranging from level 2 to level 9. The book may be ordered from local music stores or online at www.alfred.com.

- Jessica Olson

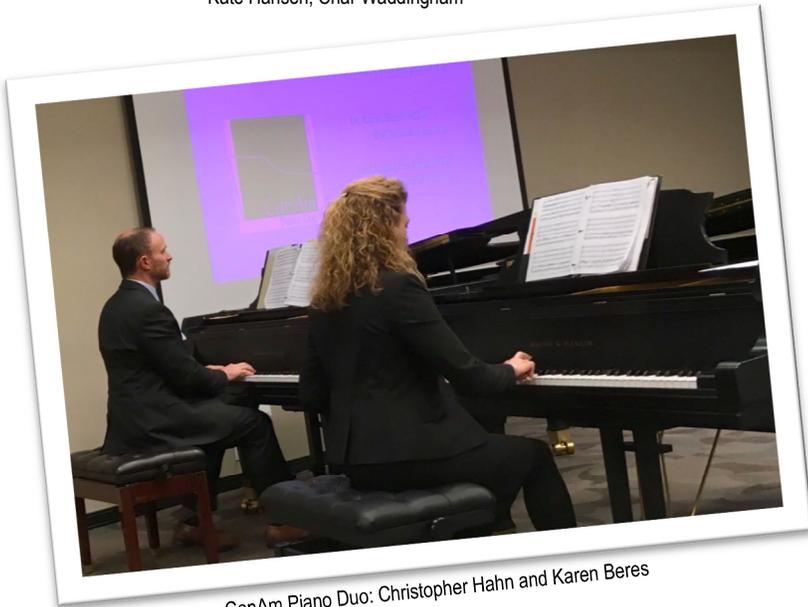
MSMTA 2017 Conference Photos - Billings



Billings Members: Ramie Streeter, Carol Mathew, Sherlon Orth, Tammie Cypher Nelson, Elinore Quander, Sharon Marble, Palma Wolverton, Margaret McGilvray, Kate Hansen, Char Waddingham



Reception Entertainment:
David Oltrogge and Tom Blankenship



CanAm Piano Duo: Christopher Hahn and Karen Beres



Linda Holden - 50 year member certificate



President: Jessica Olson



Judy Doxtater, Linda Holden, Gloria Johnson, Marcy Holston, Carlene McCrea, Maryruth Fallon, Diane Volkman, Sharon Weaver-Knowles



Steven Hesla - 45 year member certificate



UM Keyboard Society



All Nats Acapella Choir, Billings Skyview High School



Steven Hesla and Christopher Hahn



Teacher of the Year
Carlene McCrea



Sharon Marble, Tammie Cypher Nelson, Leann Vralsted

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Dr. Peter Takács

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PETER TAKÁCS, PIANIST

Hailed by the New York Times as “a marvelous pianist,” **PETER TAKÁCS** has performed widely, receiving critical and audience acclaim for his penetrating and communicative musical interpretations.

Mr. Takács was born in Bucuresti, Romania and started his musical studies before his fourth birthday. After his debut recital at age seven, he was a frequent recitalist in his native city until his parents' request for emigration to the West, at which point all his studies and performances were banned. He continued studying clandestinely with his piano teacher until his family was finally allowed to emigrate to France, where, at age fourteen, he was admitted to the Conservatoire National de Paris.

Upon his arrival in the United States, his outstanding musical talents continued to be recognized with full scholarships to Northwestern University and the University of Illinois, and a three-year fellowship for doctoral studies at the Peabody Conservatory, where he completed his artistic training with renowned pianist Leon Fleisher.

Mr. Takács has received numerous prizes and awards for his performances, including First Prize in the William Kapell International Competition, the C.D. Jackson Award for Excellence in Chamber Music at the Tanglewood Music Center, and a Solo Recitalist Grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. His performances have been hailed by audiences and the press for their penetrating intellectual insight as well as for emotional urgency and communication.

Mr. Takács has performed as guest soloist with major orchestras in the U.S. and abroad, as well as at important summer festivals such as Tanglewood, Music Mountain, Chautauqua Institution, ARIA International, Schlern Music Festival in the Italian Alps, Tel Hai International Master Classes in Israel, Sweden's Helsingborg Festival, and Musicfest Perugia 2014, and Beijing International Music Festival 2017. Since 2008, he has been a member of the faculty at the Montecito Summer Music Festival in Riverside, CA. He has performed and recorded the complete cycle of Beethoven Piano Sonatas, which was released on the CAMBRIA label in July 2011. In 2015, he was selected to inaugurate a new series in Weill Hall at Carnegie Hall entitled “Key Pianists”, presenting three recitals of Beethoven solo and chamber music to critical acclaim.

Mr. Takács' success as a teacher is attested to by his students' accomplishments, who have won top prizes in competitions in the United States, Canada, Europe, and South Africa. They have been accepted at major graduate schools such as the Curtis Institute, Juilliard School, Peabody Conservatory, and the Mozarteum in Salzburg, among many others. Mr. Takács has given master classes in the U.S., Europe and Asia, and has been a jury member at prestigious national and international competitions such as San Antonio International Keyboard Competition (twice), Canadian National Competition (three times), Cleveland International Piano Competition, and Hilton Head International Piano Competition. Mr. Takács is Professor of Piano at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music, where he has been teaching since 1976.



2017 State MTNA Competition Results

Chamber Music – Wind:

Winner: Bridger Brass Quintet, students of Sarah Stoneback (Marques Ceasar-Lopez, Briana Gillet, Jimmy Kelsey, Hayden Woods, Philip Shuler)

Alternate: Instinct Brass, students of Sarah Stoneback (Lief Erickson II, Logan Bouley, Kyle Korb, Carlee Baker, Alexis Hogart)

Junior Composition:

Representative: Noah Meeks, student of Jessica Olson

Senior Piano:

Winner: Tanner Jorden, student of Dorothea Cromley
Alternate: Caden Moore, student of Palma Wolverton

Senior String:

Winner: Marian Kale, student of Mary LaMonaca
Alternate: Jacey Mitchell, student of Mary LaMonaca

Senior Woodwind:

Representative: Antonio Jarvey, student of Johan Eriksson

Young Artist Composition:

Representative: Alexis Carrier, student of Steven Hesla

Young Artist Piano:

Representative: Adam Sears, student of Steven Hesla



Congratulations to the following students from Montana who placed or were honored in the MTNA Northwest Division Competitions!

Senior Performance Woodwind Northwest Division

Winner: Antonio Jarvey, Saxophone, student of Johan Eriksson

Senior Performance Piano Honorable Mention:

Tanner Jorden, student of Dorothea Cromley

Chamber Music Wind Representative:

Bridger Brass Quintet, students of Sarah Stoneback (Briana Gillet, Jimmy Kelsey, Philip Shuler, Hayden Woods, Marquest Ceasar-Lopez)

Young Artist Composition Representative:

Alexis Carrier, student of Steven Hesla

Junior Composition Honorable Mention:

Noah Meeks, student of Jessica Olson

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2017 MSMTA Fall Festival Results

Single-Piece Piano Solo

Elementary Division – 1st place: Clark Liang (Teacher: Bensen Lei)

Junior Division – 1st place: Emily Zeng (Teacher: Bensen Lei)
- 2nd place: Emma Li (Teacher: Kenneth Christensen)

Senior Division – 1st place: Nicole Rodriguez (Teacher: Sherlon Orth)
- 2nd place: Hannah Schermele (Teacher: Carole Hatley)
- Participation: Irene Liang (Teacher: Kenneth Christensen)
- Participation: Shana Brown (Teacher: Mary Folkman)
- Withdrew: Emily Guthridge (Teacher: Mary Folkman)

Single-Piece Piano Duet

Junior Division – 1st place: Anna Waldorf and Persephone Ulrich (Teacher: Carol Mathew)

Short Program Piano Solo

Elementary Division – 1st place: Nancy Yang (Teacher: Tricia Cox)

Junior Division – 1st place: Persephone Ulrich (Teacher: Carol Mathew)
- 2nd place: Emily Zeng (Teacher: Bensen Lei)
- Honorable Mention: Anna Waldorf (Teacher: Carol Mathew)
- Honorable Mention: Tatum Ross (Teacher: Carol Mathew)

Senior Division – 1st place: Zachary Schermele (Teacher: Carole Hatley)

Short Program Strings Solo

Junior Division – 1st place: Christian Fink, violin (Teacher: Mary LaMonaca)

Senior Division – 1st place: Maisee Brown, violin (Teacher: Mary LaMonaca)
- 2nd place: Bethany Rippeon, violin (Teacher: Mary LaMonaca)
- Honorable Mention: Alex Hunnes, violin (Teacher: Mary LaMonaca)

Piano Adjudicator: Dr. Susanne Skyrn

Strings Adjudicator: Richele Sitton

Spring Festival Certificates

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Dates of festival and city festival will be held in

Number of Honors Seals needed

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Please order a minimum of 2 weeks in advance.

Certificates ordered later may not arrive in time for the given Festival

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judyodell4@gmail.com

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Competitions



Zachary Schermele, student of Carol Hatley



Alex Hunnes, Bethany Rippeon, Maisee Brown, students of Mary LaMonaca



Clark Liang, student of Bensen Lei



Emily Zeng, student of Bensen Lei and
Emma Li, student of Ken Christensen



Hannah Schermele, student of Carole Hatley



Tanner Jordan, student of Dorothea Cromley
Caden Moore, student of Palma Wolverton



Anna Waldorf and Persephone Ulrich, students of Carol Mathew



Persephone Ulrich, student of Carol Mathew,
 Emily Zeng, student of Bensen Lei,
 Tatum Ross, student of Carol Mathew,
 Anna Waldorf, student of Carol Mathew



Nicole Rodriguez, student of Sherlon Orth



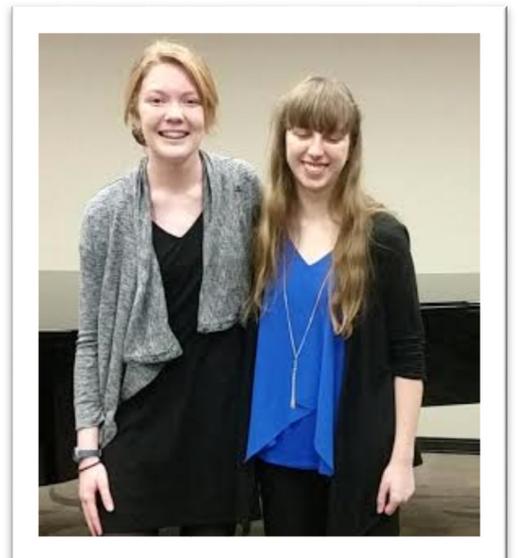
Christian Fink, student of Mary LaMonaca



Bridger Brass Quintet, students of Sarah Stoneback



Shana Brown, student of Mary Folkman,
 Nicole Rodriguez, student of Sherlon Orth,
 Hannah Schermele, student of Carole Hatley,
 Irene Liang, student of Ken Christensen



Marian Kale and Jacey Mitchell,
 students of Mary LaMonaca

News from UM

The Keyboard Division at the University of Montana is keeping active on campus and beyond. The 10th annual *Pianissimo!* concerts took place in October to much anticipation from our audiences. The addition of a new concert entitled *Poco Pianissimo!* for younger audiences was a big hit, and was broadcast live across Montana on KUFM. We also travelled to Spokane in November to perform two concerts at the Steinway Gallery of Spokane. This is a favorite road trip for everyone! Coming up in the Celebrate Piano Series is Dr. Jennifer Hayghe from the University of Colorado-Boulder on February 11, and Duo Turgeon, the award winning husband-wife piano duo of Edward and Anne-Louise Turgeon, will perform on Saturday, April 21, as well as teach all of our piano majors as part of our annual Keyboard Festival.

The UM Piano Camp welcomed 26 campers to Missoula last summer, and we are already looking forward to UM Piano Camp 2018. The dates for this summer are June 17-23. Please visit www.umt.edu/music and click on Festivals and Camps for more information. We would love to welcome your students this summer!

The UM Keyboard Society will welcome Dr. Paul Mast, a retired professor of music theory from the Oberlin Conservatory of Music where he taught for over 30 years, for a series of lectures that will introduce Schenkerian analysis to our keyboard students. This approach to music theory analysis is highly effective for the interpretation of music.

Four piano majors at UM (Scott Hamilton, Jodie-Lee Hostetler, Ellen Sears, and Claire Wang) were accepted to present their workshop entitled "Building a Better Base in the Bass: Laying a Secure Foundation in the Left Hand" at the MTNA National Conference in Orlando, Florida in March.

Dr. Nancy Cooper (organ, harpsichord, carillon) has had a very busy year, continuing research into the life of her great aunt, Anna Maude Van Hoose, a nationally renowned pianist from the 1920s-1940s. In the spring, Cooper was one of ten adjuncts at UM to receive an Outstanding Performance Award. She used the funds to travel to Los Angeles for a week of research at UCLA. Cooper's faculty recital in September, with colleague David Cody, told the story of Van Hoose's collaboration with Los-Angeles-based singer Felipe Delgado, and featured little-known piano-vocal repertoire from their tours

in the 1930s. This program had been performed earlier by Cooper at the New Mexico Museum of Art in Santa Fe, as the kick-off to their year-long centennial celebration; the performance was in the same auditorium, built in 1917, where Van Hoose and Delgado performed in 1930.

Christopher Hahn (piano) is serving his final months as the NW Division Director for MTNA. He has thoroughly enjoyed representing our division in this capacity. In the fall, Christopher was a guest clinician at the North Carolina Music Teachers State Conference, and also at the Montana State Music Teachers Conference, presenting his new book, *The Pianist's Guide to Standard Teaching and Performance Concertos*. He performed with the Helena Symphony Orchestra (Beethoven's *Choral Fantasy, Op. 80*) and with the UM Symphonic Wind Ensemble (David Maslanka's *Piano Concerto No. 3*). This spring, he will travel to Alabama to perform concerts and give masterclasses with Karen Beres as the CanAm Piano Duo. Christopher will also spend a week adjudicating in Seattle for their Musical Artistry Program (formerly State Adjudications), perform with the Great Falls Symphony's Chinook Winds in three concerts, attend the MTNA National Conference for his last round of board meetings, travel to California to perform the Maslanka *Piano Concerto No. 3* at the College Band Directors National Association Conference, and perform at a College Music Society Regional Conference at WSU. He may find time to eat and sleep!

Steven Hesla continues to be active in all the usual ways at UM and also out and about! This summer he teamed up with Matthew Maslanka to present the World Premiere of David Maslanka's "Song Lines" for euphonium and piano in Portugal. The full recital also included Matthew's arrangement of Bernstein's "Overture to Candide" and Brahms's Cello Sonata in E minor, Op. 38. Steven and Gary got to tour a bit around Portugal and Spain after the recital and thoroughly enjoyed the travels. The UM students continue to inspire Hesla to teach and perform. He was proud of Adam Sears' beautiful performance at the MTNA Northwest Divisional Young Artist Competition in Portland, and looks forward to adjudicating in Spokane this spring and teaching piano camp in June. He has been invited to perform a recital as the opening event celebrating the 25th year of Missoula's sister-city partnership with Neckargemünd, Germany in June. Neckargemünd is a lovely small city just a few kilometers upstream from Heidelberg. All are welcome!



News from the Northwest Division Director

I have been quite busy recently with my duties as your NW Division Director. At our board meeting in December, in response to a recommendation from the national competitions chair, Linda Stump, the board voted to have Division Competitions take place in an online format. Details are still to be worked out, but the motion came as a result of problems with travel, expenses, and finding volunteers to run the competitions. This was seen as a significant victory for all directors and their states.

Congratulations to Chi-Chen Wu and the members of the Laramie Music Teachers Association in Wyoming for being named the 2018 Local Association of the Year. Their activity was to raise money through concerts and events to purchase a piano for a local retirement home. I encourage each local association to devise an activity that could be a contender for this award—imagine all the great things we could accomplish!

I attended the 2018 Collegiate Chapters Symposium in Austin, Texas in early January. There were 130 attendees representing many schools across the US. Many of the students were part of a presentation, some on their own and some with a group of colleagues from their school. It is so wonderful to be in attendance, to get the chance to speak with these young leaders who are so passionate about the piano and teaching, and who are poised to embark on their professional careers in this field.

I hope you are able to attend the MTNA National Conference in Florida from March 17-21. As always, it will be a great time to gain new ideas, meet with friends, and hear some fantastic music by Jeremy Denk, Time for Three, and many others. This is our opportunity to be among other professionals in our field, to network and to learn new ideas.

If you haven't already done so, please visit www.mtna.org to see the new website. It has been a long time coming! There are lots of new features there, and more will be added in the future. Also, if you are interested to know what goes on at our board meetings, the minutes are always posted under "Explore MTNA" and then click on Board of Directors. It is your right to know what we are doing on your behalf!

My journey as NW Division Director will be complete at the end of the conference in March. My successor is Cindy Peterson-Peart from Oregon, and she will be fabulous. I have made many new friends, been a part of exciting developments for the present and future of MTNA, and spent a good amount of time in board meetings and on airplanes! I want to thank you for supporting me, from the election and throughout my term. It is amazing how quickly the time has passed! It has truly been an honor to represent the NW and Montana on the Board of Directors, and I look forward to continuing to serve MTNA in whatever way I can.

Sincerely,

Christopher Hahn
NW Division Director

News from MSU

Gregory Young and co-author Jenny Olin Shanahan recently published "Undergraduate Research in Music" with Routledge Press as a text for senior capstone courses for music degrees in English speaking countries. It is available online. He also published an article entitled, "A Research-Infused Undergraduate Music Curriculum" in the fall issue of the journal *Scholarship and Practice of Undergraduate Research*, vol. 1, no. 1.

Sopranos Erin Equall, Alethia Heide, and Rachel Walker were finalists in their divisions for the National Association of Teachers of Singing. Erin Equall won the upper division women's competition. Erin Equall was also winner of the 2017-18 MSU Concerto Competition in the area of voice. These singers are students of Elizabeth Croy, Professor of Voice at Montana State University.

Elizabeth Croy has been researching the integration of yoga in singing. MSU music education students Alethia Heide and Megan Ely have assisted with research and integrating yoga poses and movement into choral rehearsals.



MSMTA FALL FESTIVAL: Short Program Competition

Dates: November 1-3, 2018

Location: Hilton Garden Inn, Missoula, Montana

Entry Deadline: September 29, 2018

Entry Forms are available for download on www.msmta.com (click on Fall Festival or Student Activities). Online registration is also available (click on Conference Registration button).

Students who are entered in the MTNA competition may not be entered in the Fall Festival competition in the same category.

A Student may enter both the Single-Piece Category and the Short Program Category but may not play the same selection in both categories.

Once an application has been submitted and the entry deadline has passed, repertoire choices may not be changed. The selection to be performed must be what is listed on the application.

The Fall Festival may be entered for comments only or for competition. The Fall Festival coordinator reserves the right to make administrative decisions regarding competition scheduling/grouping. Judges' decisions are final.

Program Requirements for All Entry Categories

I. SOLO

A. Elementary: Ages 9 – 12* as of January 1, 2019

1. Maximum performance time: 10 minutes
2. Open to all instrumentalists; **no voice**
3. Pianists:
 - a. Memorization is required
 - b. Repertoire requirement: Program must include at least two (2) pieces of contrasting style/periods; **quality** pedagogical material is encouraged (See "Repertoire Selection Guidelines")
4. Instrumentalists:
 - a. Memorization is not required
 - b. Repertoire requirement: Program must include at least two (2) selections from contrasting style periods

B. Junior: Ages 12* – 15 as of January 1, 2019**

1. Maximum performance time: 15 minutes
2. Open to all instrumentalists and vocalists
3. Pianists:
 - a. Memorization is required
 - b. Repertoire requirement: Program must include at least two (2) works from contrasting style periods of the following:
 - (1) Baroque
 - (2) Classical (including Beethoven)
 - (3) Romantic
 - (4) Contemporary (Impressionism)
 - (5) Educational Composers

4. Vocalists:
 - a. Memorization is required
 - b. Repertoire requirement: Program must be made up of three art songs (one non-English and two English)
 - c. Include the name of any identifying work from which a song is taken
 - d. Difficult arias are discouraged
5. Instrumentalists:
 - a. Memorization is not required
 - b. Repertoire requirement: Program must include at least two (2) selections from contrasting style periods

C. Senior: Ages 15** – 19 as of January 1, 2019

1. Maximum performance time: 20 minutes
2. Open to all instrumentalists and vocalists
3. Pianists:
 - a. Memorization is required
 - b. Repertoire requirement: Program must include at least three (3) works from contrasting style periods of the following:
 - (1) Baroque
 - (2) Classical (including Beethoven)
 - (3) Romantic
 - (4) Contemporary (Impressionism)
 - (5) Educational Composers
4. Vocalists:
 - a. Memorization is required
 - b. Repertoire requirement: Program should include only four (4) selections (two non-English art songs, one English art song, and one song of the entrant's choice)
 - c. Include the name of any identifying work from which a song is taken
 - d. Difficult arias are discouraged
5. Instrumentalists:
 - a. Memorization is not required
 - b. Repertoire requirement: Program must include at least two (2) compositions representing contrasting style periods

II. PIANO DUET

All Levels (Age classifications are the same as for Solo *Elementary, Junior and Senior*)

1. Students must be able to perform on **ONE PIANO**
2. Music **does not have to be memorized**
3. Repertoire requirement: Same as listed for solos (Also see "Repertoire Selection Guidelines")
4. Students entering the duet competition may also enter the solo competition in Fall Festival
5. Teachers may jointly enter a duet team
6. Page turners are allowed

* The teacher may elect to enter a 12-year-old student in either the Elementary Division or the Junior Division but must meet the program requirements of the chosen division.

** The teacher may elect to enter a 15-year-old student in either the Junior Division or the Senior Division but must meet the program requirements of the chosen division.

TEACHERS, PLEASE NOTE:

- ◆ Because of time constraints and the number of students who compete in Fall Festival, your student's performance may be stopped if it exceeds the time limit.
- ◆ If your student wins or has won Fall Festival, he/she cannot compete a second year in the same division. Your options are to perform "for comments only," to move up a division, or to enter the MTNA competition.
- ◆ If your student has won MTNA in a previous year but wants to perform in Fall Festival, he/she may only perform "for comments only."
- ◆ Teachers or students are responsible for obtaining, compensating, rehearsing with, and scheduling an accompanist for performance. This is not handled by festival organizers.
- ◆ The teacher is responsible for correctly selecting classifications and music. The teacher is responsible for complying with the above directives and meeting all deadlines.

REPERTOIRE SELECTION GUIDELINES

Only commercially published works are permitted, and the score must be provided for the adjudicator. Jane McGrath's *The Pianist's Guide to Standard Teaching and Performance* is an excellent resource for repertoire selection and level of difficulty. Entrants may use legally-produced scores from vendors such as CD Sheet Music, provided the letter of permission that accompanies this music is included. Music downloaded from the Internet (music in the public domain) may be used; however, the teacher should be certain that such music is an original edition and not an arrangement or transcription. No photocopied music is allowed in the adjudication room unless accompanied by written permission from the publisher, stating that the selection is out of print. (Teachers are cautioned to seek this permission well in advance of the Fall Festival date.)

No arrangements, abridgments or transcriptions may be used. Hymns, American folk songs, and "pop" songs (from radio, TV, movies, videos, etc.) are not acceptable. Songs from method books (such as Lesson, Theory, Technic, Top Hits Solos) are not acceptable. Quality pedagogical material (recital or performance pieces) by composers such as Dennis Alexander, Melody Bober, Jennifer Linn, Eugenie Rocherolle, Catherine Rollin, and other similar contemporary composers may be used.

Fall Festival Fees (No Refunds)

Students:

- Elementary - \$35.00
- Junior - \$40.00
- Senior - \$45.00
- Piano Duet - \$40.00 (for the duet team)

Teachers: One-time annual fee for all entries

1. Current MSMTA member** (Registered for Conference) --- Fees are waived
2. Current MSMTA member** (Not registered for Conference) --- \$20.00
3. Non-Member (Not registered for Conference) --- \$40.00

** Membership dues must be paid before 10/1/18

Send entries and fees (checks payable to MSMTA) to:

Carole Hatley
3108 – 5A Street N. E.
Great Falls, MT 59404
Phone 406-453-0184
Email: carolehatley@yahoo.com

**SINGLE-PIECE
PIANO COMPETITION**

MSMTA FALL FESTIVAL: Single-Piece Competition

Dates: November 1-3, 2018

Location: Hilton Garden Inn, Missoula, Montana

Entry Deadline: September 29, 2018

Entry Forms are available for download at www.msmta.com
(click on *Fall Festival* or *Student Activities*)

Online registration is also available (click on *Conference Registration* button)

This competition is offered for piano only. Students will perform only ONE piece of repertoire. Ribbons will be awarded for each division. Students who enter Single-Piece Competition, either as individuals or as a duet, may also enter the Fall Festival Short Program Competition.

PIANO SOLO: There will be three Piano Solo Divisions: Elementary, Junior, and Senior.

PIANO DUET: There will be three Piano Duet Divisions: Elementary, Junior, and Senior. Students must perform on **ONE** piano. Music does not have to be memorized, and page turners are allowed.

The Entry Form is on the next page.

The Single-Piece Competition has the following age-group divisions:

Elementary:	Ages 9-12* as of Jan. 1, 2019
Junior:	Ages 12*-15** as of Jan. 1, 2019
Senior:	Ages 15**-19 as of Jan. 1, 2019

*** The teacher may elect to enter a 12-year-old student in either the Elementary Division or the Junior Division but must meet the program requirements of the chosen division.**

**** The teacher may elect to enter a 15-year-old student in either the Junior Division or the Senior Division but must meet the program requirements of the chosen division.**

Fees: (No refunds)	Solo	Duet
Students:	\$20.00	\$20.00 per team

Teachers: (*single fee for all entries*)

1. Registered for Conference	Teacher Fees are waived
2. MSMTA Member – no Conference	\$20.00 (Membership dues must be paid before 10/1/18)
3. Non-Member – no Conference	\$40.00

Send entry forms and fees (checks payable to MSMTA) to: Carole Hatley
3108 – 5A Street N. E.
Great Falls, MT 59404
Phone: (406) 453-0184
E-mail: carolehatley@yahoo.com

Or register online at www.msmta.com (click on *Fall Festival* or *Student Activities*)

**SINGLE-PIECE
PIANO COMPETITION**

2018 MSMTA FALL FESTIVAL APPLICATION
Application Deadline: POSTMARKED by September 29, 2018

Name(s) _____

E-mail Address _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State/Zip _____

Telephone _____ Cell Phone _____

Student's Age as of Jan. 1, 2019 _____

Teacher's Name _____ Teacher's E-mail _____

Division: Elementary Junior Senior

Performance Type: Duet Solo performer

Repertoire to be performed (Please refer to *Repertoire Selection Guidelines* under "MSMTA FALL FESTIVAL: Short Program Competition")

Please be very detailed: Include tempo marking, Opus #, and any other title of a movement, as well as the number of the movement.

Title _____

Movement(s) _____

Composer's Full Name _____

Performance Time _____

Teacher Fees: **MSMTA Member (\$20)** (Membership dues must be paid before 10/1/18)
 Non-Member (\$40)
 Subsequent Student (\$0)

(This fee is waived if the teacher is registered for the Conference; Teacher fee is paid only once, with the first student's application.)

**Mail this completed form, with payment
(checks payable to MSMTA) to:**

**Carole Hatley
MSMTA Fall Festival Coordinator
3108 – 5A Street N. E.
Great Falls, MT 59404**

Student Fee	\$20.00
Teacher Fee	_____
Total	_____

SHORT PROGRAM

MSMTA FALL FESTIVAL
Dates: November 1-3, 2018
Location: Hilton Garden Inn, Missoula, Montana
Application Deadline: September 29, 2018

Name(s) _____ E-mail Address _____

Mailing Address _____ City _____ State/Zip _____

Telephone _____ Cell Phone _____

Student's Age as of Jan. 1, 2019 _____

Teacher's Name _____ Teacher's E-mail _____

Accompanist's Name _____

(An accompanist is required for vocalists and instrumentalists. Teachers may accompany their own students.)

Instrument or Voice Classification _____

List repertoire on the second page

Piano: Duet Solo Performer

Division: Elementary (Ages 9-12* as of Jan. 1, 2019)
 Junior (Ages 12*-15**as of Jan. 1, 2019)
 Senior (Ages 15**-19 as of Jan. 1, 2019)

*** The teacher may elect to enter a 12-year-old student in either the Elementary Division or the Junior Division but must meet the program requirements of the chosen division.**

**** The teacher may elect to enter a 15-year-old student in either the Junior Division or the Senior Division but must meet the program requirements of the chosen division.**

Choice of Entry: Competition Comments Only

Fall Festival Student Fees (Short Program) (No refunds)

Elementary	\$35.00
Junior	\$40.00
Senior	\$45.00
Piano Duet	\$40.00

Teacher Fees: MSMTA Member (\$20) Non-Member (\$40) Subsequent Student (\$0)
(This fee is waived if the teacher is registered for the Conference; Teacher fee is paid only once, with the first student's application.)

**Mail this completed form, including second page,
with payment (checks payable to MSMTA) to:**

**Carole Hatley
MSMTA Fall Festival Coordinator
3108 – 5A Street N. E.
Great Falls, MT 59404**

2018 MSMTA Fall Festival Application
APPLICATION DEADLINE: POSTMARKED by SEPTEMBER 29, 2018

Name _____ Division _____

Instrument or Voice Classification _____

Repertoire to be performed (For piano, please refer to *Repertoire Selection Guidelines* under “MSMTA FALL FESTIVAL – Short Program Competition”)

Please be very detailed: Include tempo marking, Opus #, and any other title of a movement, as well as the number of the movement. **Please type or print.**

I. Title _____

Movement(s) _____

Composer’s Full Name _____

Performance Time _____ Style/Period _____

II. Title _____

Movement(s) _____

Composer’s Full Name _____

Performance Time _____ Style/Period _____

III. Title _____

Movement(s) _____

Composer’s Full Name _____

Performance Time _____ Style/Period _____

IV. Title _____

Movement(s) _____

Composer’s Full Name _____

Performance Time _____ Style/Period _____

Congratulations to the following members on reaching membership milestones in 2017!

5 years:

Jessica Olson
Alma Weisner
David Klassy
Brad Knutson

10 years:

Sue Bowman
Mary Folkman
Carol Mathew
Patricia McBride
Ruth Plesner
Kevin Rindlisbacher
Deborah Schuerr

15 years:

Arle Lohof
Karen McLean

20 years:

Kathleen Hansen
Carlene McCrea

25 years:

Kenneth Christensen
Katherine Skinner
Ruth Clawson

35 years:

Judy O'Dell
Dorothy Peterson

40 years:

Gay Garard-Brewer
Diane Volkman
Ingrid Holiday

45 years:

Dorothea Cromley
Steven Hesla

50 years:

Linda Holden

55 years:

Henry Campbell



Member Achievements:

The AGO (American Guild of Organists) honored Arle Lohof at a dinner meeting on September 8, 2017. Arle has been the organist at First English Lutheran Church for 60 years, and a member of the Billings Music Teachers Association for 15 years.

Student MSMTA member Alexis Carrier won an honorable mention in the International Horn Society's 2017 composition contest for her piece for solo horn, "The Final Battle Cry." Carrier is studying composition at UM.

Heidi Brower completed her national certification through MTNA in 2017.

2016-2018 Directory Updates

Biegel, Anna

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Dorothea Cromley

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Cypher Nelson, Tammie

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Funk, Florence

915 Saddle Dr., #366
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Gorder, Suzanne

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Hedegaard, Rebecca

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Strizich, Carol

Email: pushinivory15@gmail.com

Winter, Jodell

Phone: (406) 899-1113
Email: jodellwinter@gmail.com



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through 2018 High School graduates*

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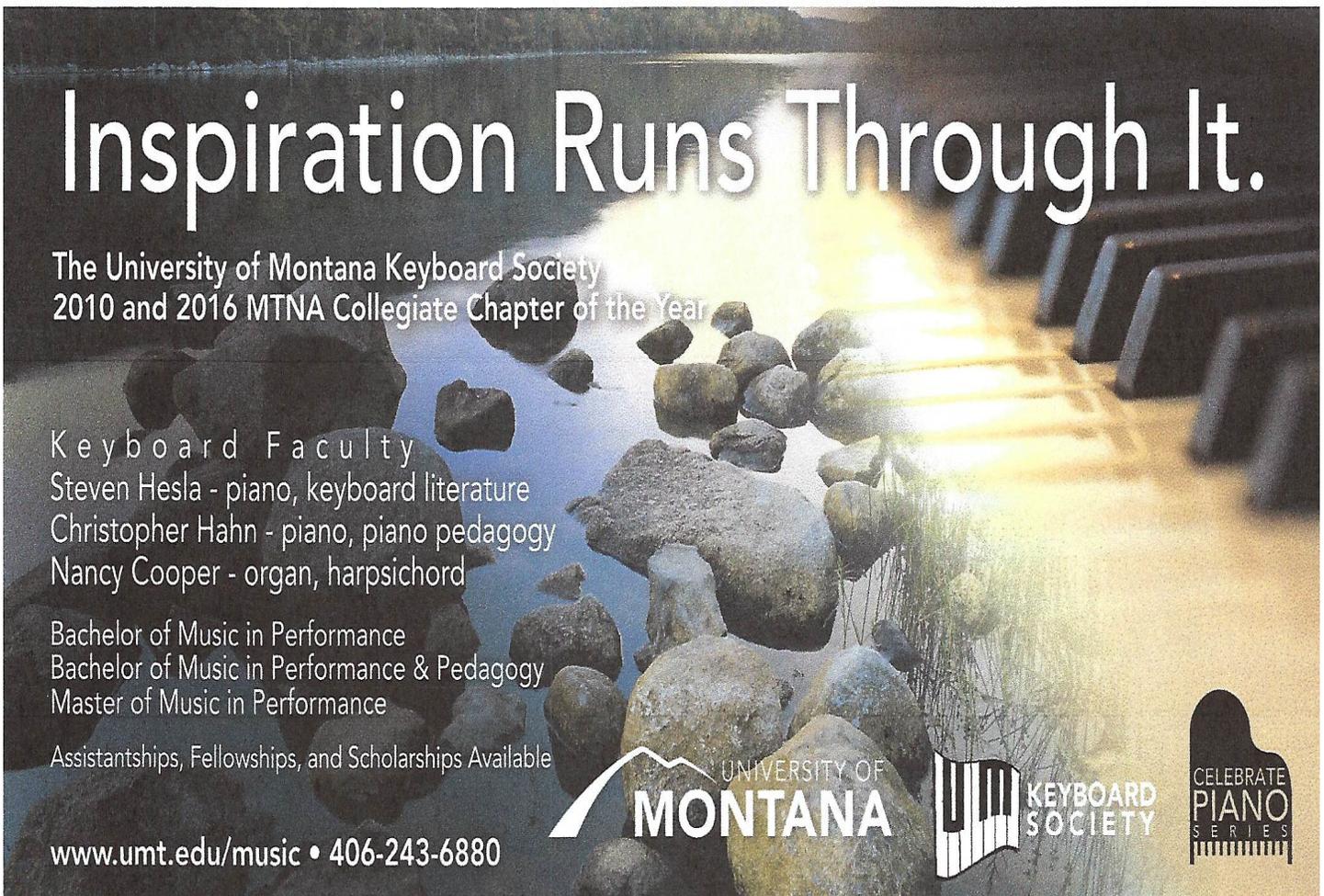
MTNA Foundation News

I begin by thanking all of you for your financial support of our MTNA Foundation! Thank you to those of you who regularly make a donation when you pay your dues. In addition you've given to our Foundation Fellow each year so that our state can demonstrate its support of the Foundation while honoring one of our outstanding Montana teachers. And you've given generously to our Raffle held at our state conference each year as well as providing wonderful items to be raffled! From this Raffle half of the proceeds go to our MSMTA Travel Fund which is used to help our Montana students who've won first place at the MTNA state level competitions to travel to the Divisional competitions to represent us. The other half goes directly to the MTNA Foundation lending support to its marvelous programs from which we and our students can benefit. The reason for us to support the MTNA Foundation is because it is OURS! We have the opportunity through our Foundation, for example, to apply for grant monies for things such as opening a new studio or studying privately to enhance our teaching and performing skills. Our local and state associations can apply for monetary awards to further their activities as well.

As of today I can tell you with great excitement that the amount raised in honor of our 2018 Foundation Fellow, Linda Holden of Valier, is \$1,735.00! Congratulations to you members of MSMTA and to Linda for raising this kind of support! Linda will be honored in Orlando, Florida at our MTNA National Conference Banquet this coming March.

Again, I can't say it enough. Thank you for caring and for your generosity!

Sharon Weaver-Knowles, NCTM
MSMTA Foundation Chair



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Local Association News

BILLINGS

Greetings from the Magic City!

What a wonderful privilege to host the 2017 State Conference in November. Despite a slap from the weather department we were extremely pleased for those of you who made Billings your destination for that weekend. Upon the arrival of winter that weekend, we are very much looking forward to spring! In the meantime, BMTA teachers and students are busy preparing for the annual Sonatina Festival to be held in March. We are extremely excited to once again have Julie Gosswiller as our adjudicator.

We hope to thaw our way through winter with exciting meeting topics yet to come. Wishing you all a splendid and productive winter as the songs of spring linger at our fingertips.

With A Song in My Heart,

-Tammie Nelson, President BMTA

GREAT FALLS

The GFMTA had a good fall with our various musical activities. The teacher enrichment component of meetings provided us with a program on Brahms and several of our members attended the MSMTA State Conference, bringing back a lot of interesting information and enthusiasm to share. Many thanks to the BMTA for hosting!

The GFMTA Spring Festival is scheduled for April 13-14, 2018, with Piano Master Adjudicator Diane Volkman, who has also offered to do children's sessions for the very young.

Linda Holden is this year's Montana Foundation Fellow, and the GFMTA has contributed \$100 to the MTNA Foundation in her honor. Additionally, due to the unprecedented number of national disasters (hurricanes, wildfires) throughout the US this year, our chapter voted to donate \$100 to the MTNA Benevolence Fund, which exists "to support music teachers with studio redevelopment in federally declared disaster areas."

Our final musical event of the year was the annual Christmas Stroll Marathon Recital in December. Hosted by the Quality Pianos music store, this 4-hour event presented music students from all across the community during the downtown Christmas Stroll in an on-going recital of solos and ensembles.

Respectfully,

-Jennifer Smith, President GFMTA

KALISPELL

Happy New Year from the Flathead Valley!

We had a wonderful and inspiring performance by pianist Alfredo Oyagues Montero and violinist Byron Wallis in September. We had around 100 people in attendance, which included many of our students.

We had a good turnout at the State Conference where our own Carlene McCrea was honored as MSMTA teacher of the year. There was also a wealth of fantastic information that was shared with our members who were unable to attend.

Our KAMTA scholarship recipients presented a beautiful recital at Glacier High School on January 5th. We were fortunate to hear Suzanne Rohrbach (soprano), Nathan Connell (baritone and percussion), Paul Bruce (tuba) and Alysaa Framness (soprano).

We have some fun interactive meetings coming up this spring. We will be organizing our historical records into protective memory books and visiting one of our local teacher's recording studio. Our spring festival takes place in March with Julie Gosswiller from Montana State University adjudicating our students. Katie Maker will be adjudicating our spring vocal festival. It will be wonderful to include many of our students in these festivals.

-Ginny Reese, President KAMTA

MISSOULA

The Missoula Music Teachers began our fall season with a kickoff meeting, potluck dinner, and planning of the coming year at the beautiful home of Karen Woodgerd.

At the end of September we enjoyed a workshop by talented composer Mary Sallee who presented many of her compositions along with commentary of skills she had in mind for students when she composed them. November's meeting included a get-to-know-one-another session with members sharing our backgrounds.

That month we lost our very appreciated secretary Rita Herseth when she moved to California. We wish her the best in her new home. In December we met for a potluck brunch at the home of Laura Morris. For entertainment members enjoyed reading through a book of Christmas carol piano duets arranged by Melody Bober. Our January meeting was held at the University of Montana, where we were treated to a pre-MTNA NW Division competition performance by Adam Sears and masterclass with Steve Hesla.

With money raised by our 2017 spring playathon, \$400 was donated to the University of Montana Foundation, through which we provided a scholarship to Ellen A. Sears. Ellen has been a piano student of Dorothy Peterson and Christopher Hahn.

Upcoming events include a spring festival March 9-11 and an ensemble recital May 18 and 20, and planning for the next MSMTA Conference to be held here in the fall. In February we look forward to a presentation on improving the left hand that will be offered at the MTNA National Conference by the student affiliate group at UM.

-Laura Morris, President MMTA

Message from the MTNA Certification Commission

The beauty of the MTNA National Certification Program is that it offers all teachers the chance to work on meaningful projects that actually apply to our everyday professional lives. Back in my day, the program was based more on academic knowledge and performance skills. It was assumed that a person with a degree in the music field, or someone who had passed several MTNA sanctioned exams, would know how to teach. At that time, there was no examination of true teaching ability, communication skills, nor of business practices. In short, we were given the professional title of NCTM without necessarily knowing how to communicate what we knew musically to our students, let alone run a studio as a business.

The current program, however, is astounding in its breadth and purpose. The five Teacher Profile Projects (TPP) address all the most important facets of our profession and give teachers a chance to raise the bar on their professional skills at the same time. Each project is structured to delve into the heart of the individual's core philosophy and knowledge base, provides guidance with business ethics, and gives opportunities for self-evaluation. For example, even as I graded others, Project 2 made me think about my own presentation of music history and composers to students. I found myself wondering if I had slacked off in this area. Project 3 had me asking myself the most important question every teacher needs to keep in the back of his mind: am I presenting the material in a way that the student would understand? Was I being as interesting and creative as I could be or had I become complacent? And the great thing is the other projects (1, 4 & 5) are also set up for teachers to look at themselves in a different light as they prepare for certification.

Finally, the MTNA National Certification Program's most valued feature is the opportunity to keep working toward staying certified. Accumulating points annually through participation in local and state associations, adjudications, festivals, etc. keeps all of us involved and aware of the latest news in our field. Through this 2-step process, we can continue to learn and grow as professionals, striving for excellence every step of the way. For as we all know, "Success doesn't come from what you do occasionally. It comes from what you do consistently."

Ann M. Fernandez
NCTM Northwest Division Certification Commissioner



Students Needed!

If you have piano students who would like to learn from master teachers at our fall conference in Missoula, please consider entering them in one of our MSMTA master classes! Our fall conference will feature both an intermediate master class presented by Dr. Chi Chen Wu and an advanced master class taught by Dr. Peter Takács focusing on the classical period. Look for entry forms and more information in our fall newsletter.



What Is it?

The MTNA eFestival is an online-only performance opportunity where you receive a constructive critique from a highly-qualified evaluator.

Why an E-Festival?

Many music students live in remote areas and don't have access to evaluative events. Others are unable to attend a live festival. Some have an audition or performance coming up and want additional comments. The MTNA eFestival provides a convenient option!

Who is it for?

EVERY piano student, beginner through advanced, young or old, amateur or competitor, studying with a teacher or on your own... perfect for those with performance anxiety. More instrumental areas will be added as the program grows.

How does it work?

The pianist video-records up to 15 minutes of playing and uploads the video(s) to our application via Acceptd. In most cases, participants will receive comments on their performances via email 2–3 weeks after submission. *THAT'S IT!*

What About Repertoire?

Any solo piano pieces of any level, including arrangements and transcriptions, are acceptable.

What About Video Quality?

Cell phone, tablet, video camera...it doesn't matter as long as the sound is clear.

When Can I Start?

The MTNA eFestival officially launched in May 2017. Then it runs year-round. No deadlines! No hassle!

What Does It Cost?

\$60 application fee

Faculty

Kirk Aamot: Montanans, Chorale, Conducting
 Angella Ahn: Violin, Viola, String Techniques
 Linda Antas: Music Technology, Composition
 Beth Antonopulos: Oboe, Music History, Music Theory
 Jason Bolte: Music Technology, Composition
 David Charles: World Music
 Julia Cory Slovarp: Cello, String Techniques
 Elizabeth Croy: Voice, Vocal Techniques
 Eric Funk: Composition: American Popular Music,
 Masterworks in Music
 Julie Gosswiller: Piano, Aural Perception
 Jon Harney: Voice, University Chorus, Opera Studio
 Kristin Harney: Music Education
 Rob Kohler: Bass
 Mary Kothman: Aural Perception
 Keith Kothman: Director of the School, Music
 Technology, Composition
 Jeannie Little: Low Brass, University Band
 Susan Makeever: Flute, Woodwind Techniques
 Ryan Matzinger: Saxophone, Jazz Ensembles
 Mike Nelson: Horn
 Jeremiah Slovarp: Music Technology, Entertainment
 Business
 Nathan Stark: Wind Symphony, Spirit of the West
 Marching Band
 Tobin Stewart: Symphony Orchestra, Conducting,
 Aural Perception
 Sarah Stoneback: Trumpet
 Stephen Versaavel: Percussion, Asst. Director of the
 Spirit of the West Marching Band
 Jeffrey Vick: Gamelan Ensemble
 Michael Videon: Guitar
 Susan [unclear] worth: Bassoon
 Doc Wiley: Basic Home Recording
 Laurel Yost: Piano, Music History
 Gregory Young: Clarinet, Undergraduate Research,
 Music Theory, Composition



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**Montana State Music Teachers Association
June D. Werner Memorial Scholarship Registration**

This scholarship honors June D. Werner, who was a devoted member of MSMTA.

MSMTA will award one \$100.00 scholarship for summer study at the camp of the student's choice for summer 2018. Eligible students must meet the following criteria:

- The student's teacher must be a current member of MSMTA.
- The area of focus of the camp must be on the instrument the student studies with the MSMTA member.
- The student will record 2 pieces, contrasting in style. The recording must be on the instrument the student studies with the MSMTA member. Please **DO NOT** put your name on the recording. The student will write a brief paragraph on a separate sheet of paper, about their reasons for studying music and their motivations for attending a camp. Please **DO NOT** put your name on the paragraph.
- The award will be made directly to the camp the student wishes to attend. (If all fees have already been paid, the student will provide proof of registration to MSMTA.)
- The application, recording and paragraph must be submitted by the deadline.

Student's Name _____ Age _____

Student's Address _____ Email _____

Student's Phone _____ Teacher's Name _____

Name and Address of Summer Camp

Application Deadline: May 15, 2018

Please send the completed application and your recording and paragraph to:

Judy O'Dell
1108 24th Ave SW
Great Falls, MT 59404
judyodell4@gmail.com

MSMTA Cinda Tompkins Piano Pedagogy Scholarship

Sponsored by the Montana Music Teachers Association

This scholarship honors Cinda Tompkins, an MSMTA member, who devoted her life to the profession of piano teaching. The purpose is to encourage and give support to a music student whose goal is to teach piano. It is to be awarded during the student's junior or senior year of undergraduate studies in music.

Criteria for Application

The student must be a (sophomore) or upper classman working towards a degree in music, who intends to teach piano. The degree should be in piano pedagogy or music education which included piano pedagogy classes.

1. The student may be enrolled in an in-state or out-of-state program to qualify.
2. The student's former teacher must currently be a member of the Montana State Music Teachers Association and have been a member during the last year of the student's study before college.
3. Students may be nominated by the student's pre-college MSMTA teacher or by their current collegiate teacher. A letter of recommendation is sent to the MSMTA Scholarship Chair.
4. The student must meet an appropriate degree of proficiency decided upon by the keyboard faculty of that institution.

Procedure

1. An application form and a MSMTA teacher recommendation must be submitted to the Scholarship Chairman by May 1, 2018.
2. A recipient will be selected by April 15th by the scholarship committee, which will consist of the Scholarship Chair, the MSMTA President and another member.
3. The recipient and teacher will be notified in writing by the end of April. The scholarship money will be disbursed to the student the next fall semester for the enrolled student's undergraduate studies.
4. The award will be for \$500.00

Linda Holden
MSMTA Scholarship Chair
540 Westwind Road
Valier, MT 59486 melody@3rivers.net

Application Form

MSMTA Cinda Tompkins Piano Pedagogy Scholarship

Please send or attach a photo to be used for our MSMTA Newsletter

Date _____

Name of Student _____

Address _____

Studying in the Department of Music at _____

Degree Program Pursuing _____

Expected Graduation Year _____

Current Teacher _____

(If applicable)

Former MSMTA Teacher _____

Address to mail Scholarship _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Return to:

Linda Holden

MSMTA Scholarship Chair

540 Westwind Road

Valier, MT 59486 melody@3rivers.net

Our Favorite Studio Tech

Educational technology has become an indispensable part of learning in many private music studios, and we asked our members to share some apps and technology resources that have enhanced their teaching this year.

Note Rush – App for Apple and Android

www.noterushapp.com

*My favorite new thing that I am doing with my students is using an app called "Note Rush." It is like doing note reading flash cards but it syncs to your piano so students have to **play** the correct pitch before it will automatically switch to a new note. - Heidi Brower*

Flash Note Derby – App for Apple and Android

www.flashnotederby.com

Flash Note Derby is a fun alternative to music flashcards. Correct choices move your horse closer to the finish line, while incorrect answers slow you down. This app is a favorite among my young students! - Jessica Olson

MTNA Webinars

www.mtna.org

MTNA has launched a series of webinars to provide an opportunity for continuing education without having to leave the comfort of your own home. Topics range from technology to technique and are presented by well-known experts in the profession. MTNA members will be notified in advance via e-mail to register for these monthly events. - Kenneth Christensen, NCTM

G-Force Music Visualizer – Cross Platform Software/App

www.soundspectrum.com/g-force

G-Force Platinum is an audio responsive music visualizer. Graphics on the screen respond to the dynamic level and mood of students' playing, encouraging them to bring their music to life! - Jessica Olson

University of Iowa Piano Pedagogy Project Youtube Channel

www.youtube.com/user/UIPianoPed

This channel features a tremendous selection of well-played elementary through intermediate repertoire reference videos. - Jessica Olson

The Most Addicting Sheep Game – App for Apple

Students must tap precisely on the beat to keep their sheep alive. Rhythms and maneuvers become more difficult as students progress through the levels. - Carla Bell

Other Tools to Explore:

Audacity – Cross Platform Audio Editing Software, www.audacityteam.org

Musescore – Cross Platform Music Notation Software, www.musescore.org

Scale Tracks – App for Apple, professionally composed backing tracks for scales and arpeggios

Super Metronome Groove Box – Apple/Android, metronome and drum machine backing tracks

Spotify – Cross Platform App, create and share playlists and listening challenges with students

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ASK US ABOUT OUR TEACHER PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

**General Meeting of the Association
Big Horn Resort Conference Center
November 4, 2017**

The meeting was called to order by President Jessica Olson at 9:00 a.m.

Old Business:

- 1) The minutes 2016 meeting minutes were approved.
- 2) The chair reports are online and members are encouraged to read them.
- 3) The job description book still needs: Certification, College Faculty, Social Media, IMTF, Legislative, Library, Past Presidents Advisory Council, Scholarships, and Technology. Jessica asked that these job descriptions be submitted to her as soon as possible.
- 4) Members are reminded to update their contact information with MTNA as this is where we get the information. Members are encouraged to scroll down to the 'Find a Teacher' section and opt in.
- 5) Because membership pins have become so expensive it was reported that the Board approved switching from using pins that denote the years of membership to ribbon attachments that can be added to name badges at conference. It was agreed that special acknowledgments may still be given to those achieving 25 and 50 years of membership.

New Business:

- 1) Members were encouraged to donate to the MTNA Foundation for fellow Linda Holden. Donations must be made by January 15, 2018.
- 2) It was reported that the Board approved adoption of a new MSMTA logo and updated website. The new website will be more streamlined and information will be easier to find. There will not be any significant change in annual cost. Many thanks were given to Carla Bell for her countless hours of work. Jessica Olson donated the graphic design services to MSMTA.
- 3) It was reported that the Board opted to approve a Senior rate for annual State Conference in lieu of a Senior rate for membership due to the financial impacts on the association. That amount is to be determined annually. The membership recommended the Senior Conference rate apply to members 65 years old or older with at least five years of membership.
- 4) The Board recommends that advertising rates will remain the same with the exception of a \$15.00 increase for the cost of a color ad.
- 5) The Board recommends that the student conference rate remain the same. It was noted that their rate is 50% of the full conference rate.
- 6) Palma Wolverton inquired about whether the members would be voting on a budget. Jessica apologized for overlooking the creation of the budget report and will disseminate the last enacted budget to the membership.
- 7) It was reported that the Board approved transitioning from a printed newsletter to digital distribution only beginning in 2019. The newsletter will be sent via snail mail and email for 2018 and thereafter be digital only. It was noted that this transition will save the association a large amount of money, and it was requested that local associations assist members who may not have digital access with printing.
- 8) Jessica reported that the Board approved a motion making all Collegiate Chapter Presidents and Vice Presidents chairs on the MSMTA State Board.
- 9) We will continue to look for a list of teachers who became certified under the old state system. Anyone with knowledge of this information is asked to contact the President.
- 10) It was reported that the Board approved appointment of a special permanent conference committee which may include: Venue Coordinator (seek bids and make recommendations to President), Vendor and Sponsor Chair (oversee solicitation of sponsors, sponsor ads, signage, and acknowledgments), Hospitality (welcome baskets and table decorations), Recital Chair (program printing and ticket sales), and Commissioned Composer Committee. The President will continue to maintain strong oversight over all areas of conference planning and budget. Carol Matthew volunteered to create sponsor signs again next year. Sharon Marble volunteered to create table decorations once again. Michael Evock and Judy O'Dell volunteered to be Commissioned Composer Committee Chairs.
- 11) It was reported that Diane Volkman wishes to step down as competitions chair. Diane was thanked for her service. Laura Detrick volunteered to take over Diane's duties as chair.
- 12) The Board recommends and membership agreed on changing the title of Facebook Chair to Social Media Chair. It was recommended that additional accounts be started on Twitter and Instagram. Judy O'Dell volunteered to serve as Social Media Chair.
- 13) Palma Wolverton pointed out the MSMTA members who provided sessions at the annual conference were traditionally unpaid. She expressed displeasure at the fact that some are now being compensated.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Judy O'Dell, acting Secretary



Montana Music News
Montana State Music Teachers Association
Jessica Olson
3465 Beaverhead St.
Bozeman, MT 59718