

SOUNDWAVE

OKLAHOMA MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION



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FROM THE PRESIDENT

BY MICHAEL DEAN

Welcome to a new year of music with the Oklahoma Music Teachers Association! I am very proud of our teachers for their resilience this past year and look forward to another great year!

The OMTA website has been updated for this year's events. Please check it out!

Davis Dorrough and his team have prepared a wonderful slate of auditions and competitions. More details about those events are detailed in this newsletter.

President-Elect Danny Calhoun and his team are busy preparing for the 2022 State Conference. This year the conference will be held in Tulsa. You won't want to miss it!

I hope you take a moment to read this newsletter and find inspiration. OMTA is still moving forward in our musical endeavors. I would love to see everyone at this year's events, especially the State Conference in June 2022.

NEWS AND EVENTS

UNIVERSITIES

University of Central Oklahoma

The UCO Piano Division is pleased to announce several events that will be of interest to pre-college students and their teachers.

UCO Piano Day - Friday, November 5, 2021

Pre-college pianists are invited to join the UCO Piano Division for an afternoon/evening of activities including spotlight presentations highlighting various dimensions of the UCO piano program, a digital keyboard ensemble session, masterclasses by UCO faculty, a campus tour, a FREE dinner, and an evening recital. Those interested in attending Piano Day and/or performing in a Piano Day masterclass must register using the following link: <https://ocae.uco.edu>

Valery Kuleshov Fall Semester Masterclasses (3)

Maestro Valery Kuleshov will teach three Friday afternoon masterclasses during the Fall 2021 semester. The dates of the classes are November 12, November 19 and December 3.

Each class will be held from 2-4 p.m. in the Radke Fine Arts Theatre located in the Center for Transformative Learning (CTL) building on the UCO campus. Through video audition, pre-college pianists will be selected through competitive audition to perform in these classes. Those interested must submit their selection to Dr. Sallie Pollack at spollack@uco.edu by October 25.

Valery Kuleshov Recital - November 13, 2021

On Saturday, November 13, 2021 at 7:30 p.m., Maestro Valery Kuleshov will perform a solo piano recital in the Radke Fine Arts Theatre located in the CTL building on the UCO campus. Admission is free. Due to space limitations, it will be necessary for those attending to register by emailing Dr. Sallie Pollack at Spollack@uco.edu.

The Kuleshov International Piano Competition - March 24-27, 2022


For details regarding the competition, please visit the competition webpage: <https://www.uco.edu/cfad/academics/music/the-kuleshov/>

The Silver Age of Russian Piano Music - April 23 & 24, 2022

Pre-college students and area teachers will not want to miss this spring festival featuring the music of Scriabin, Rachmaninoff, Medtner, and Prokofiev. Students wishing to perform works by these composers in masterclasses and/or recitals must submit an email of intent and video to Dr. Sallie Pollack at spollack@uco.edu by March 28, 2022.

Oklahoma Baptist University


The OBU Keyboard Studies program invites all high school pianists to our twelfth annual Keyboard Academy on November 11-12, 2021! This FREE event is a great way for students to prepare for auditions and festivals throughout the year and enjoy a glimpse into the daily life of an OBU piano major. Students will benefit from lessons with OBU keyboard faculty, a masterclass, OBU undergraduate class observations and performance opportunities, plus a free concert by our 2021 Academy Artist and newest OBU piano faculty member, Dr. Mark Franklin! Students may enter as participants or observers. Teachers may enter as observers only. Entry forms must be submitted by November 1. Forms may be obtained by emailing Dr. Abigail Mace at abigail.mace@okbu.edu.



OKLAHOMA BAPTIST UNIVERSITY
2021 Keyboard Academy
November 11-12, 2021

- Concert
- Masterclass
- Lessons
- Class Observations
- Student Recital

FREE
High School
Piano Experience


OBU
DIVISION OF MUSIC

NEWS AND EVENTS

UNIVERSITIES

Oklahoma State University

The faculty, students and staff of the OSU Greenwood School of Music moved into their new facility this fall semester. Preparations for the move included the purchase of 45 new Steinway pianos at a cost of \$1.8 million, including three new concert grands (chosen at the factory in New York) and six 7-foot model B's that are now placed in performance halls, teaching studios and a recording studio. The inventory is now maintained by piano technician Vince Mrykalo, who moved to Stillwater in August from Lawrence, Kansas, where he'd been serving for many years as the head technician at KU.

The OSU High School Piano Competition will once again be held live in the beautiful McKnight Center for the Performing Arts Recital Hall, which is now connected to the north side of the Greenwood School building to form one state-of-the-art musical complex. The competition takes place on Saturday, February 5th, 2022 with an online application deadline of Monday, January 24th, so teachers and students can begin planning to enter soon!



Thomas Lanners' teaching studio

MEMBER SUBMISSIONS

OMTA MEMBERS

From the Beginning

Linda M. Fields, NCTM

Former Chair, NCKP Committee on Young Musicians, birth-9 yrs.

Our Incredible Ear, Part 1 of 2

Our amazing ear has a dual function: it processes both Sound and Balance. Along with hearing, the ear helps us feel our physical location in space. Moving the ear through space helps us learn rhythm, pitch, and expression. Hearing and movement are powerful partners, both of which are linked to the ear.

Moving to the beat while listening or, better yet, singing creates a strong connection between pitch and rhythm. Singing while moving makes good use of the dual function of the ear.

Especially with young students, aim to include listening, singing and movement, along with playing, at every lesson.

Marilyn Witcher Jr. Honor Competition

Mary Sallee, Chair

Are you a NCTM with a talented **5th or 6th grade piano or instrumental student** performing works from a variety of styles? If so, have you ever considered entering them in this competition that asks students to perform a minimum of 2 works (total minimum length of 8 minutes/max 15) representing two of the three contrasting style periods?

It's been a few years since we have had ANY entrants in this competition which was established by one of our past presidents of OMTA, Marilyn Witcher (1986-1990). She felt that teachers should be held to the highest standards, which is why only Nationally Certified Teachers (NCTM) may enter students. The competition will be held in conjunction with the Sr. Competitions at Edmond Music on Sat. April 30, with the entry deadline of April 15th. For more info, visit [AUDITIONS and COMPETITIONS](#).

Classics for the Developing Pianist Books 1-5

Phyllis Lehrer and Ingrid Clarfield

We were thrilled to be invited to write a blog about our series, [Classics for the Developing Pianist Books 1-5](#). You can learn more about the books by visiting the link below.

<https://blog.sheetmusicplus.com/2021/07/28/great-editing-the-difference-between-success-frustration/>

NEWS AND EVENTS

LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS

Central Oklahoma Music Teachers Association

COMTA teachers held their annual Clavinova Ensemble Adventures Performance on September 18th at Church of the Servant in Oklahoma City. Fifty-one students participated with Susan Ogilvy conducting her own compositions. The Christmas Clavinova Festival will occur on December 11th at Larsen's Music with over 100 students and teachers participating. Ogilvy will again share her talents as she conducts the ensembles.

Click on the link to enjoy last year's Clavinova Ensemble Adventures Performance at Edmond Music.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SRYd4jN7dkk>

Norman Area Music Teachers Association

NAMTA (Norman Area Music Teachers Assoc.) Events for Fall 2021:

- September 10th: "Teaching that Connects Us: Shared Experiences and Practical Pedagogy from our Musical Ancestors" presented by Dr. Abigail Mace, NCTM, OBU.
- October 23rd: NAMTA's Fall Festival is back! A day of performing/adjudication, face painting, costumes and fun at the University of Oklahoma's Catlett Music Center. All members of OMTA are welcome to enter their students. For more information, please contact chair Hayden Coie at HaydenCoie.Piano@gmail.com.
- December 10: Annual Christmas Luncheon at University Lutheran Church and Students Center, Norman."

Tulsa Area Music Teachers Association

Tulsa Area Music Teachers Association and Saied Music Company invite OMTA teachers to attend a workshop with composer & clinician **Dennis Alexander**.

Date: Friday, October 1, 2021

The deadline for the workshop and/or a lunch reservation is **Wednesday, September 22nd**. The workshop is FREE.

To make a reservation please send an email to: Karen Harrington - karenharrington@cox.net

The price for a boxed lunch is \$15.00 and will be collected at the workshop.

Place: Saied Music Company

- 9320 E 71st St, Tulsa, OK 74133

Time:

- 8:45 a.m. registration – pastries and coffee served
- 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Workshop
- 11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Lunch (optional—The cost is \$15.00 to be paid the day of the workshop. A reservation must be made by September 22nd)

Topics will include:

- "Breaking Barriers with Teenagers"-Alternative Teaching Strategies to Help Motivate and Inspire!"
- Showcase: "Practical, Purposeful, and Plentiful" - music of Dennis Alexander
- Teaching the Romantics to Young Pianists

AUDITIONS AND COMPETITIONS UPDATES FOR 2021-2022

DAVIS DORROUGH, OMTA VP AUDITIONS AND COMPETITIONS

Auditions and Competitions Late Fee

The Auditions and Competitions late fee has increased from \$25.00 to \$50.00 for members who do not pay their dues by July 1 each year.

Live Auditions

All auditions are planned to be held live for the 2021-2022 year.

District and State Achievement Auditions

OMTA Will Continue Offering an eDistrict and eState Audition Option

Although OMTA's regular auditions will be held in person this year, beginning in 2022, OMTA will also offer virtual audition events in conjunction with District and State Achievement Auditions.

While OMTA would like to stress the importance of live in-person performances, these virtual events provide a participation opportunity for in-state and out-of-state students and teachers who are maintaining a virtual lesson platform. They also allow an alternative for students who cannot attend District and State Achievement Auditions in-person due to a schedule conflict.

Performances will be submitted as videos for adjudication. The critique sheet will be emailed to the teacher. Irena Olsson-Hume will be the eAchievement Chair and will handle the processing of videos, digital critiques, and questions regarding virtual auditions.

Teachers can register students in the following two ways:

Option 1: Virtual District only

Option 2: Virtual District and Virtual State

IMPORTANT: No changes can be made once a student registers. Students cannot change from the virtual audition to an in-person audition or from in-person to virtual. Students cannot register for virtual District and then later be added to a virtual or in-person State audition. Once the teacher has completed the entry form, no changes will be accepted.

- The entry fee for eDistrict is \$30.00. The entry fee for eState is \$30.00. In-person audition fees will remain the same.
- Teachers will submit District and State entries using the online registration form.
 - Teachers will follow the same repertoire requirements as outlined for in-person achievement auditions.
 - Teachers will follow the OMTA videoing guidelines when submitting student video performances.
 - District performance medals awards for in-state students will be mailed to the local District Chairperson.
 - District performance certificate awards for out-of-state students will be emailed to the teacher.
 - State performance awards for in-state students will be available for pick up by the teacher or by a teacher in the same area as the submitting teacher at the State Achievement Audition at the Catlett Music Center on the campus of the University of Oklahoma in Norman May 20-21, 2022.
 - State performance certificate awards for out-of-state students will be emailed to the teacher.

Virtual District and State Achievement Audition Option Timeline:

February 1, 2022: Virtual District and State registration deadline

March 2022: Administration of theory tests by the teacher

April 1, 2022: District performance video submission deadline

April 8, 2022: District performance videos will be viewed by adjudicators

May 1, 2022: State performance video submission deadline

May 8, 2022: State performance videos will be viewed by adjudicators

May 20-21, 2022: In-person State Achievement Audition and pick up of all State awards (in-person students and virtual in-state students)

AUDITIONS AND COMPETITIONS UPDATES FOR 2021-2022

DAVIS DORROUGH, OMTA VP AUDITIONS AND COMPETITIONS

Theory Tests for All Auditions Will Continue to Be Administered by Teachers in 2022

After surveying teachers and district chairs, the auditions committee has decided to continue keeping theory tests separate from District Audition day and instead allow teachers to administer tests independently during the month of March. The same procedure used in 2021 will be used again for 2022.

Increased Adjudicator Time Per Student

This year the Auditions Committee agreed that more time is needed to judge performances (both in-person and virtually). In the past, District Chairs have scheduled students by six- or eight-minute intervals. The consensus is that the schedule should be in ten-minute intervals. This new scheduling format will make the math easier for District Chairs (60 minutes divided by 10 equals 6 students per hour) and will offer the adjudicator more time to elaborate on the performance.

New State Achievement Award Honoring Auda Marie Thomas

A new State Achievement award will be called the Auda Marie Thomas Award of Excellence.

The Auda Marie Thomas Award of Excellence is presented to high school students who are actively involved in the District and State Achievement Auditions. The award is nomination based. Teachers may nominate one student within their studio who is participating in both District and State Achievement Auditions in the current year and who exemplifies outstanding excellence in their preparation for these events.

Teachers are responsible for submitting the online application. Students may only be nominated one time for this award. The Auda Marie Thomas Award of Excellence will be presented to each nominated student at the State Achievement Audition.

Junior Competition

Competition Date: Saturday, April 23, 2022

Entry Deadline: April 2

Location: Edmond Music, 3400 S. Broadway, Edmond, OK

Competition Chair: Ron Lewis ronaldlewis493@yahoo.com

IMPORTANT: The decision was made at the 2021 OMTA Conference Board Meeting for the Junior competition to occur as one, state-wide competition with one set of winners. The number of winners will be a percentage based on the number of entrants. Each winner will receive a \$50 cash award and be invited to perform at the Oklahoma Music Teachers Association State Conference.

Senior Competition and Marilyn Witcher Competition

Competition Date: Saturday, April 30, 2022

Entry Deadline: April 15, 2022, midnight

Location: Edmond Music, 3400 S. Broadway, Edmond, OK

Competition Chair: Mary Sallee mksallee@icloud.com

OMTA Composition Festival

Entry Deadline: November 1, 2021

Occurs online

MTNA Competitions

Audition Dates: Saturday, Oct. 30- Sunday, Oct. 31, 2021

Location: Edmond Music Studio Recital Hall (3400 S. Broadway, Edmond, OK)

Online Entry Deadline: 11:59 p.m. September 15, 2021

Competition Chair: Marji Fint marji.fint@yahoo.com

OMTA Collegiate Competitions

OMTA Collegiate Competitions (instrumental, vocal, and piano)

Audition Dates: Saturday, Oct. 30- Sunday, Oct. 31, 2021

Location: Edmond Music Studio Recital Hall (3400 S. Broadway, Edmond, OK)

Online Entry Deadline: 11:59 p.m. September 30, 2021

Competition Chair: Marji Fint marji.fint@yahoo.com

STATE CONFERENCE 2022

DANNY CALHOUN, OMTA PRESIDENT-ELECT



Mark your calendar and make plans to join us for the 92nd OMTA State Conference this upcoming June 2-4. It was such a wonderful experience being able to meet together at our last conference in Stillwater this past June, and I am looking forward to another time of connection and renewal as we celebrate “Artistic Explorations.”

The conference will be held at the Doubletree by Hilton Hotel Tulsa - Warren Place. We are thrilled to have pianist, composer, clinician, author, and teacher, Catherine Rollin serve as our conference clinician, and look forward to welcoming internationally acclaimed pianist Stephen Beus back to Oklahoma as our conference artist!

Danny Calhoun, NCTM
OMTA President-Elect



Catherine Rollin



Stephen Beus