



Oklahoma Music Teacher

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KIMBERLY WATSON, EDITOR

From Your President...



From Your President. . . .

The year 2004 has many exciting things in store for OMTA membership.

One event, on a grand scale, will be the Music Teachers National Association 2004 National Conference held March 27-31 in Kansas City, Missouri. You should have received a brochure detailing some of the new aspects to be featured this year. The AMT for December/January has even more specifics plus information concerning registration and hotels. I hope that you have noticed that our own immediate past president, Ann Gipson, is Chair of the conference planning committee. The location is good for us this year. I hope to see a good attendance from Oklahoma there. I promise you there will be something for everyone.

portant and will be considered. I will summarize the discussion for you in my next OMT article.

The OMTA year to this point has been a busy one. Both district conferences were outstanding and well attended. Oklahoma will be represented at the Division Level of the MTNA competition in Fort Worth by Junghye Shin, Collegiate Artist Performance Competition, piano (Jeongwon Ham, teacher), Kayla Beth Healey, High School Performance Competition, piano (Roger Price, teacher), Aaron Foshee, High School Performance Competition, voice (Kaye Shields, teacher), Rachel Fellows, High School Performance Competition, violin (Esther Fellows, teacher), Tiffany Tai, Junior High Performance Competition, piano (Gloria Johnson, teacher) and Daniel Fellows, Junior High Performance Competition, viola (Esther Fellows, teacher). We will also look forward to hearing these talented students perform at our State Conference.

2004 is a significant year for OMTA. It marks the 75th anniversary of OMTA as well as the 50th anniversary of our affiliation with MTNA. I wish for each of you a wonderful 2004.

- Ron Lewis, President

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June will mark the end of the two-year trial period for the redistricting of OMTA. In our winter board meeting (January 24, 2004) I plan to spend time discussing the pros and cons of making this change. The vote will be taken during the state conference in Tulsa, June 4-5, 2004. The board needs your input, preferably in writing. Please express your likes or dislikes to any member of the board as soon as possible. I would especially like to hear from you. E-mail me at ron.lewis@okbu.edu. I promise you that everyone's opinion is im-



Margaret Otwell

2004 OMTA Conference Clinician

Dr. Margaret Otwell brings an impressive combination of performing and teaching experience to her role as Director of Educational Keyboard Products at Hal Leonard. Peggy, as she is known to colleagues and friends, began teaching during her undergraduate studies at Catholic University in Washington, DC. In just one year she had a full studio of talented, young students. Her first love is, and will always be, teaching. Many students from her studio have continued their studies and are now professional pianist/teachers themselves. She has been a member of the Music Teachers National Association since 1978 and has served as Membership Chair and President of the Northern Virginia Music Teachers Association. She was Assistant Professor of Music at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, and most recently was Assistant Professor of Music at George Mason University in Fairfax, VA, where she taught undergraduate and graduate piano majors, Class Keyboard Skills, Accompanying and Chamber Music, and Piano Pedagogy.

Peggy has given lectures, teacher workshops and masterclasses throughout the United States. Her thoughtful and excellent diagnostic commentary concerning student performances has earned her a fine reputation as a coach and an adjudicator for area competitions and festivals.

Peggy was awarded a DMA degree in Performance from the University of Maryland, where she studied piano and pedagogy with renowned teachers Stewart Gordon, Thomas Schumacher, and Nelita True. She also studied with Gaby Casadesus as a recipient of a Fulbright Performance grant to France in 1979. Hailed as a "poetic pianist," she has appeared in solo and chamber music performances throughout the USA and in Europe, performing at The Kennedy Center's Terrace Theater, The National Gallery of Art in Washington DC, The French Embassy, and several summer festivals in France. She is well known for her interpretation of French repertoire, and has recorded the complete works of Déodat de Séverac for Musical Heritage Society Records.

Peggy has continually sought to balance her life in performance with her commitment to teaching. In workshops she has often remarked, "There are three important gifts we must give our students: a passionate love of the art of playing the piano; an awakening to the depth of personal growth that results from daily practice at the piano; and the desire to pass along that knowledge to another generation of pianists."

VISIT US ON THE WEB AT

WWW.OKMTA.ORG



From your Vice-President

How would you like to come to a weekend birthday party? It's time to celebrate OMTA's 75th year as a state association and 50th year with MTNA! We promise to make it a special occasion on June 3-5th at the Adam's Mark Hotel in downtown Tulsa, so let's work to have a record turnout! Read below to find about special guests invited to our party, concert tickets* and special prizes that will be given away.

MTNA President, Phyllis Pieffer from Aberdeen Washington. Phyllis is a delightful person and will be here to represent MTNA and its staff. My hope is to have the membership welcome her at a reception on Thursday evening. I have also asked Phyllis to give an encore presentation on Robert's Rules that she presented at the MTNA Summit. If you're in a leadership position and want to be up on 'what's in and what's out in parliamentary procedure, don't miss this great session on how to run a meeting! If you're like me, you'll take home a lot!

Dr. Margaret Otwell, Director of Educational Products at Hal Leonard. (See bio in this OMT.) Margaret (Peggy) will be conducting a session on teaching French Impressionist Music to the Intermediate Student. Peggy was a big hit at a TAMTA workshop this fall.

Barbara Conable, Alexander Technician and Author of Body Mapping. Barbara has worked with every type of musician, conductor, actor and performer in helping them understand how body awareness can lead to a solid technique and prevention from injuries. This exercise in awareness reaches beyond music and performing by helping us understand physical movement for any physical task that we do throughout the day.

Suzanne Guy - Independent Teacher and Nationally Recognized Clinician from Norfolk, Virginia. For years, Suzanne has been one of the most sought-out clinicians in speaking to inde-

pendent teachers about practice and preparation for pre-college students. Some of her topics include: How to Practice as Little as Possible (and get BIG results!) and Oh Dear, Where Can the Melody Be?

*Guest Artist Christopher O'Riley - Host of NPR's "From the Top will perform in concert at the Tulsa Performing Arts Center. Seating for this concert is limited since it normally sells out. Tickets may be purchased through the PAC box office or through your conference registration with a limit of two per member. Eighty tickets @ \$8 have been reserved for OMTA members, so please make sure that you get your registration in early! OMTA will host a private reception for members, students and guests following the concert so make sure that you wear your badge.

Be watching for convention info on the OMTA website (www.okmta.org) after March 15th so you can register early. As mentioned before, please consider staying at the hotel if at all possible to insure OMTA will meet their minimum room quota. The Adam's Mark convention rate is \$79 for a double room and guarantees you free parking throughout your stay. (You must mention that you are with OMTA to receive this discounted rate).

One night free hotel will be awarded in a drawing for 1st time attendees registering for the convention. To be eligible, you must be registered for at least one night at the hotel and all conference meals. The drawing will take place at the noon luncheon.

If you have any ideas or names of potential exhibitors or advertisers, please feel free to contact me. (Please make a note of my new email address- mksallee@cox.net.) See you in June!

Mary Sallee, NCTM,
OMTA Conference Chair

Membership and Certification News



Enjoyed seeing a number of our loyal OMTA members at the East District Convention Nov. 15 in Shawnee. It was an excellent convention.

We want to extend belated condolences to the family of Gloria Broyles Fine, late of Muskogee, who passed away in June, 2003. She had been a member of OMTA since 1962 and will be missed in the profession.

The National Certification Commission is searching for local associations whose member all have the NCTM designation. Each local with 100 percent of its members certified will be recognized at the 2004 MTNA National Conference. If your association has achieved this goal, or if you have any questions regarding national certification, contact the MTNA Headquarters:

441 Vine St., Ste. 505
Cincinnati, OH 45202-2811
toll-free 1-888-512-5278

www.mtnacertification.org/home.htm

There may be one or two locals in Oklahoma who are near this worthy goal and who will want to pursue it in future years.

I'm happy to answer your membership or certification questions. I try to respond promptly. Call, write, or send an e-mail anytime. Wishing you a wonderful New Year!

- Robert McFadden, VP for Certification and Membership



NEW MEMBERS

Mary Katharine Grady	OKC	Piano
Natalie Syring	Edmond	Flute, Theory & History
Vivi Vivi	OKC	Piano & Theory
Keith Whitmore	Shawnee	Piano

NATIONALLY CERTIFIED

Terri Hlubek, NCTM	OKC
Karen Naifeh-Harmon, NCTM	Tulsa
Leon Whitesell, NCTM	Edmond

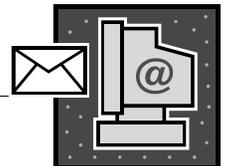
NEW PROVISIONAL MEMBERS

Natalie Syring	Edmond	Piano
Vivi Vivi	OKC	Voice

COLLEGE FACULTY CERTIFICATE

Dr. Gerald Frank	Stillwater	Organ & Theory
Rondal Wallace	OKC	Piano
Dr. Valarie Watts	OKC	Flute

ELECTRONIC OMT



Break out of your routine—try something different! Last month's OMT announced our new ability to distribute the OMT electronically as an email attachment. Several people have responded, and it is not too late for you to join those who wish to receive their next issue electronically. If you are interested, we can send your next issue of the OMT as a .pdf file which can be opened with the Adobe Acrobat reader which is free from Adobe. If you are interested in receiving your copy of the OMT electronically, **email Kim Watson at: kim.watson@okbu.edu**

CLICK HERE **NEW MTNA MEMBERS CAN NOW JOIN ONLINE!**

MTNA is pleased to announce that new members now can join online. Becoming a member has never been easier and can be completed by going to the MTNA website (www.mtna.org) and clicking on ** New - Join Online ** in the red box on the right hand side of the screen. This takes you to a drop down menu . Select the appropriate membership category from the menu and then click on Join now. After completing the information fields, the system quickly calculates dues for national, state and local membership, as appropriate. After submitting the application new members then can print out a confirmation sheet with their new member number and a copy of their membership information. Joining only takes a few minutes and can be completed any time of day.

Address Changes



Laura Gandy

1104 Kelly Park Rd., Edmond, OK 73003

Sandra Meyer

sandra.meyer@okbu.edu; sgmeyer@gbronline.com

Digby Bell

cardig@sbcglobal.net

*Mary Ann Sainsbury
is now*

Mary Ann Allison

Broken Arrow email: musicsempre@cox.net

THE 2004 MTNA NATIONAL CONFERENCE KANSAS CITY-MARCH 27-31, 2004

Highlights of the 2004 MTNA National Conference include:

- Four full days of educational sessions by well-known clinicians who will share their insight on a variety of topics and address challenges faced by music-teaching professionals
- Free evening concerts featuring Jon Kimura Parker, pianist, and Zephyr, chamber trio
- National competitions finals and winners' concerts in all instruments and levels, showcasing the best young performers nationwide
- Technology sessions offered throughout the conference, featuring the latest in electronic music making
- A 175-booth exhibit hall offering opportunities to browse and purchase teaching methods, sheet music, music technology and more
- Informative and timely *Pedagogy Saturday* and *Professional Studio Saturday* events and sessions
- Industry showcases introducing the latest teaching innovations



Hotel reservations can be arranged by calling the Marriott Downtown at (816) 421-6800.
For more information about the 2004 National Conference, visit the MTNA website at www.mtna.org
and click on conference.



Local Associations and Collegiate Chapters

This month I want to report on an historic event that occurred this year in OMTA. The West District Convention held at Oklahoma Christian University under the direction of Patsy Wylie and Rose Ratcliffe, district co-presidents, hosted what I and other officers believe is the first collegiate session in Oklahoma. Saturday, November 1, approximately 15 college students from Oklahoma Christian University, Kathy Thompson, advisor, and Southwestern State University, Jim Breckenridge, advisor, attended what I believe will be only the first such event. After gathering with other OMTA members for a continental breakfast and pedagogy session with Mitzi Kolar, we had a collegiate session on careers in music (held concurrently with the first recital of junior auditions winners). Our superb panelists were Marjorie Farrell, Lawton; Kim Williams, Edmond; and Steve and Ada Sewell, Norman. We had a wonderful discussion filled with everything from advice on business aspects; balancing your teaching career with the rest of your life; and inspirational anecdotes where teachers related moments when they *knew* that their presence in a student's life had really made a difference. Many spontaneous questions from the audience and the rapport among the panelists made this a very worthwhile event for all who attended. The collegiate students then attended the convention buffet at a special price (thanks to our state organization for making this possible) and then had a short mini-session on games for teaching music presented by the OC collegiate chapter. Following this session, all attended the masterful recital of Valery Kuleshov and ended the day with attendance at the second junior auditions winners' recital. My thanks to everyone who made this event possible! It was an exciting and energizing day.

Sandra Meyer,
Local Associations and Collegiate Chapters



Foundation FAQ's

Q. Why should I give to the MTNA FOUNDATION FUND?

A. By giving to the FOUNDATION FUND, you are helping to perpetuate the joy of music education, and, if you are a musician, you are giving back to your profession. Donations to the MTNA FOUNDATION FUND support programs that help music students excel, music teachers meet their educational goals and local associations offer music opportunities to members of their community. Contributors to the MTNA FOUNDATION FUND are keeping America's musical future alive!

Q. Where will my donations go?

A. Donations to the MTNA FOUNDATION FUND provide funding for the following programs:

- Teacher Enrichment Grants, providing assistance for music teachers wishing to continue their education
- Local Association Matching Grants, offering matching grants for community projects carried out by local MTNA-affiliated music teacher associations
- MTNA National Student Competition awards, recognizing the hard work and abilities of talented music students and their teachers across the nation
- MTNA Studio Teacher Fellowship program providing a \$3,000 cash award to a new teacher to use for independent studio development
- Collegiate Chapter of the Year Award
- AMT Article of the Year Award
- Distinguished Composer of the Year Award

Q. Will all of my contribution go directly toward helping teachers and students?

A. Less than 20 percent of FOUNDATION FUND monies go toward development costs. That means 80 cents out of every dollar contributed will go toward funding MTNA programs and awards.



Vice-President Auditions

Achievement Auditions are very close at hand. It's not too late to prepare your students to also do the theory tests. I still have a few sets left for \$14.00 (includes postage). Contact me at 2505 Elmira, Muskogee, OK 74403.

If you are a new OMTA member and have never participated in an OMTA audition, the Achievement Audition would be a perfect one to begin. Consider setting a goal of entering only a few students the first time. It will be worth the extra work.

- Nancy Shelton, VP Auditions

OMTA Foundation

As I write this, we are anticipating a weekend of snow and Christmas is just around the corner. Before we know it, spring will arrive and with it, our OMTA Convention in June. As always, the MTNA Foundation sponsors a fundraiser to encourage members to make a donation. This year our campaign will take a more serious, perhaps even a sentimental theme. Would you like to make a donation in memory of or in honor of someone who has had a significant impact on your life? A certificate will be sent to that person, or person's family to recognize your donation. More details will follow, but begin thinking of who you might like to honor this year.

As you continue to contribute throughout this new year, be sure to designate "Oklahoma Fellow" in the memo line of your check so our fund will grow towards our goal of honoring another outstanding OMTA member.

- Sandra Pierce, Foundation Chair



OSU HIGH SCHOOL KEYBOARD COMPETITION

The annual High School Keyboard Competition at OSU in Stillwater will take place on Saturday, February 21, 2004, for pianists and organists. The First Prize is \$200 and also includes participation as a performer in the February 22 Piano Master Class with Dr. Peter Miyamoto. The Second Prize is \$100, the Third Prize \$50.

The postmark deadline for registrations is January 30, 2004. For additional information or a registration form, please e-mail Dr. Gerald Frank at <fgerald@okstate.edu> or phone him at 405-744-8985.



100% CERTIFIED

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441 Vine St., Ste. 505
Cincinnati, OH 45202-2811
(888) 512-5278

www.mtnacertification.org/home.htm



Newly Certified Members

DeAnna Calhoun	Owasso	Piano
Sandra B. Fitzgerald	Tahlequah	Piano & Theory
Heather Shea Lanners	Stillwater	Piano
Carolyn Buck Stauffer	Eufaula	Piano
Kathy Wilson	Tulsa	Piano
Margaret Wood	Stillwater	Voice

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**WE'RE ON THE
WEB:**

WWW.OKMTA.ORG

**PUT YOUR LOCAL ASSOCIATION NEWS IN
THE NEXT OMT!**

Send any activities and/or photos to:

**Kimberly Watson
OBU Box 61257
500 W. University
Shawnee, Oklahoma 74804**

Or submit information electronically to:

kim.watson@okbu.edu

Next OMT Deadline is March 15, 2004