



From Your President...

Greetings OMTA Members!

I hope this OMT finds you rested from a wonderful holiday. Below is a brief summary of various topics that might be of interest to the OMTA membership.

OMTA Vote: The vote to split the current officer position of Vice president of Local Associations and Collegiate Chapters into two positions was approved. The nominating committee will be asked to select two separate nominees

for these diverse jobs. It is quite possible that the job of coordinating collegiate chapters will be turned into an Elected Board Position (like CFF or IMTF Chair) rather than an official office. In January, I will ask the Board to submit a motion to change the bylaws so that we may submit it to the membership for a vote in June.

Music Donations for Hurricane Victims: A drive is still underway to help teachers

in Louisiana and Mississippi who have lost their studios due to hurricanes in the south. Sue Steck-Turner has been in contact with me to locate donate music/materials for a vocal teacher who lost everything. Although tax-deductible donations

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Mary reports at the East District Conference.

Preview of a Great State Conference

Plans are being made for an exciting and inspiring 2006 state conference. If you haven't attended in a few years, make plans now to be at Cameron University in

Lawton, June 2-3, 2006. Dr. Hyunsoon Whang and the members of the Lawton MTA are already at work hoping to make this a very memorable conference.

This is such a good way to meet your colleagues in the organization. Each one of you has so many outstanding qualities and talents as musicians and

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Mark Your Calendar:

- ◆ State Conference, June 2-3, 2006—Lawton, OK
- ◆ MTNA Conference, March 25-29, 2006—Austin, Texas
- ◆ MTNA Foundation deadlines—see page 3
- ◆ Next OMT deadline—March 15, 2006

Be the Best You Can Be



“Music is a more potent instrument than any other for education, and children should be taught music before anything else.” —Plato

As our public schools continue to cut music and the performing arts from their budgets, our roles as private music teachers filling in the gap in our communities becomes increasingly important.

Are we offering the very best to our students? Keeping our OMTA membership and certification current, pursuing MTNA certification, attending local meetings and state conferences all combine to ‘keep us on our toes’ professionally. We often need to be reminded that the opportunity we have in making a difference in students’ lives is an important privilege.

Sandra Pierce, NCTM, VP
of Membership &
Certification



Let’s be the best we can be. Can you hear Plato cheering us on?

You...Plus One

The Collegiate Chapters’ session at the West District Conference was a success! Students were learning from each other and finding ways to make their activities meaningful and helpful to their communities. Many great ideas on membership building and fund-raising were shared, too! The “Music Sale” project in collaboration with teachers and local music stores involves helping teachers and stores clear out long-time overstock or old music to recycle. This may be another way that both Local Associations and Collegiate Chapters can use to boost fund-raising.

Many cheers and many thanks to



Invite a friend to your Association or Chapter meetings!

Southwestern Oklahoma State University Collegiate Chapter for a very fine professional session! If everyone of us will work on one music teacher or colleague to help him/her to want the great benefits of being an

OMTA/MTNA member through our activities, we will double our numbers. This also will enhance our personal growth and educational diversity.

Next time, invite a friend to one of our Association or Chapter meetings. And don’t forget the Conference in June!

Dr. Chindarat Charoenwongse, VP
of Local Associations &
Collegiate Chapters
teaches piano pedagogy at the University of Central Oklahoma. She has taught at Chulalongkorn University, Kasetsart University, and Chintakarn Music Institute where she served as the director of piano department. An active piano pedagogy clinician, she presented workshops, master-classes, and lectures for Alfred and Hal Leonard publications.



NAMTA News

The Norman Area Music Teachers Association Christmas luncheon and meeting is held annually in December at the home of Cindy Pullin. (She is standing in the picture.) The members are discussing items concerning their annual Mall Marathon to be held in March, celebrating the 250th year of Mozart's birth.

From Your President, continued

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can be made on-line through MTNA at www.mtna.org, I also encourage local associations to be creative in raising funds or collecting a little from each member in order to provide cash gift cards to music stores for teachers needing to replace their libraries of music and recordings. If you have any items to donate, contact Louisiana President, Sue Turner at: steckturner@hotmail.com.

OMTA Composition Festival: Since our MTNA Composition entries were up this year, it is evident that we have students interested in composition! The plan for a state-wide composition festival may not die on the vine after all! At the East District Conference, Esther Fellows agreed to 'step to the plate' and serve as chair! If you would like to serve on the committee or help Esther in any capacity, contact mksallee@cox.net. Please watch fu-

ture OMTs for details.

Piano Duet Competition: The MTNA Board recently approved a new recommendation from the Collaborative



Members present door prizes at the East District Conference.

Performance Task Force that would initiate a Piano Duet category within the Senior Performance Competitions. This competition would support and encourage ensemble playing by pre-college students, and also open teachers to the possibility of collaborating themselves by jointly entering a duet team. The details are being worked

out for implementation in 2007-08 and would be in effect for five years, at which time it will come under review.

This year, the MTNA Conference will be held in Austin, Texas so this is our chance to encourage many Oklahoma members to attend. It will be held March 25-29, so plan your semester accordingly. This is your chance to get new ideas, meet other teachers from across the nation (and deduct it *all* from your taxes)! Check your AMT for details and talk with members from your local association about attending.

Best Wishes for a Happy New Year!

Mary Sallee, NCTM,

President of OMTA has been an independent teacher in Norman since 1988. For four years she taught as adjunct faculty at OBU. As a composer and arranger, she has over 50 publications, the most recent being a piano suite from Alfred commemorating the Oklahoma Centennial. Mary also freelances as a dinner/jazz pianist and is on the part-time music staff at Westminster Presbyterian Church in OKC.



A Fresh Commitment to the MTNA Foundation

The MTNA Foundation does such a wonderful job of supporting teachers and students. I hope everyone will make a fresh commitment to the Foundation this year and help support it so we can continue the wonderful programs it

has to offer. The Foundation Fund offers Teacher Enrichment Grants, Local Association Matching Grants, and Local Association Start-up Grants.

The MTNA foundation fund is committed to keeping America's musical future alive for future generations by supporting comprehensive programs that nurture the creation, performance, study and teaching of music.

To be eligible for consideration applications must be postmarked by the following deadlines:

Teacher Enrichment Grants application deadline: January 10, 2006

Local Association

Matching Grants application deadline: January 31, 2006

New Local Association Start-up Grants application deadline: January

31, 2006

For more information about the grants and awards available for MTNA members and their students, visit the Foundation Fund website at: <http://www.mtnafoundation.org/home.htm>

I look forward to seeing many of you soon - Happy New Year!

Kathy Kochheiser,

MTNA Foundation Chair is an independent teacher of piano in Claremore, OK. She has played the piano/keyboards at First Baptist Church, Claremore, since 1987 and served as President of the Tulsa Accredited Music Teachers Association from 2000 to 2002.



Preview of a Great State Conference, continued

(Continued from page 1)

teachers. And each career is distinct from the rest. I always learn a great deal when rubbing shoulders with other music professionals.

Occasionally I hear someone say, "I don't know many of the members outside my local association." This is a great reason to join us! I think our membership is a very friendly group!

Our convention artist will be the distinguished pianist **Joseph Banowetz**. He was featured in a previous issue of the OMT.



"Banowetz is a virtuoso in the noblest sense of the word, who seeks a balance between dexterity, technical display, and surface glitter, while always concentrating on unfolding the music's artistic and emotional message." -- Ruch Muzyczny, Warsaw, Poland

His book *The Pianist's Guide to Pedaling* was awarded a prestigious "Outstanding Academic Book of the Year" Choice Award by the American Library Association in 1985.

In addition to the guest artist concert, Mr. Banowetz will be giving an additional session plus a master class.

Our pedagogy specialist is **Jane Smisor Bastien**. She needs very little introduction and comes at the highest recommendation of those who have heard her. Jane Smisor Bastien is first

and foremost a piano teacher. As former director of the Preparatory Department of Music at Tulane University, she has had an extensive background in developing teaching materials for children. James and Jane Bastien were recipients of the 1999 MTNA Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of their outstanding careers in music and contribution to the music profession as pianists, authors, composers, and music educators. With more than 300 books to their credit, the Bastiens have inspired millions of teachers and students worldwide. She currently main-

"Banowetz is a virtuoso in the noblest sense of the word..." — Ruch Muzyczny

tains a studio in La Jolla, California. Mrs. Bastien will make pedagogy presentations and give a master class involving elementary- and intermediate-level students from the classes of Lawton MTA teachers.

The 2006 commissioned composer is **Dr. Ed Huceby** of Broken Arrow. He is writing a piece for trumpet and piano which will be premiered at the conference. Dr. Huceby is Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs at Northeastern Oklahoma State University, serving as the chief administrative officer for the Tulsa and Broken Arrow campuses.

The College Faculty Forum session will showcase two of OMTA's university faculty members: **Dr. Thomas Labé** of Cameron University and **Dr. Roger**

Price of the University of Tulsa. Dr. Labé will provide ideas for broadening the repertoire through compositions which develop technique. Dr. Price's presentation will focus on building a free, healthy, powerful technique at the piano. There will be a session devoted to the independent music teacher, winners recitals, exhibits of music and gifts, the convention banquet, many door prizes, and more.

The designated conference hotel is SpringHill Suites (a Marriott property) which is about a ten-minute drive from the University. It is located just off Interstate 44. The rooms will be completely refurbished and re-decorated before June and the rate is already locked in for us.



Where else can you get such a professional uplift and for such a small amount of money? It will be well worth your time. I hope to see you there.

Dr. Robert McFadden,
NCTM, President-Elect



Make the next OMT a special issue! Submit your local news, activities and pictures to your Editor for the April Issue.

Deadline for submissions is **March 15th**. Email submissions to sharon@leskawat.com or mail to: 7815 E. 80th St. Tulsa, OK 74133

Get Your OMT First

By receiving your OMT over email, you will receive deadlines, upcoming information and news hot off the press!

Emailing newsletters saves your association paper, time and money. Our email subscribers currently make up 19% of our circulation and are saving OMTA \$132 this quarter!

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The OMT is posted on our web site under "History of OMTA". Back copies will always be right at your fingertips so you can print any hard copies of the pages you need.

OMTA members willing to receive their OMT's by email should send an email to your Editor, Sharon E Leskawat, at: sharon@leskawat.com

www.okmta.org

www.mtna.org

Cameron University Competition

Cameron University (Lawton) will hold its thirteenth annual Piano Competition for High School Students on Sunday, February 26, 2006.

The competition, open to students in grades 9 through 12, carries a top prize of \$200. Other prizes and scholarships will be awarded. Students in grades 11 and 12 prepare a 12-15 minute program; those in grades 9 and 10 pre-

pare a 7-10 minute program. Complete information (along with a printable brochure/application) is available online at <http://www.cameron.edu/music/piano>. Applications must be postmarked no later than February 10, 2006.



Applications must be postmarked by Feb. 10

Contemporary Composers and the Repertoire Award

Audition season is close at hand. Senior Auditions are right around the corner. The registrations were up a little last year, so let's continue to let this audition increase in numbers.

Achievement Auditions are in March and April. If you have not yet participated in this particular audition, this is an excellent beginning to enter your students in auditions.

There are still a few theory tests from last year available. The cost is \$15.00. Call me at 918/682.4968 or email aprflf@sbcglobal.net to let me know if you would like a set.



Dimitri Kabalevsky and children at a performance.

Just a reminder concerning the Repertoire Award — A contemporary composer does not include the teaching composers such as Bober, Alexander,

Mier, etc. Only "recognized" contemporary composers are accepted, such as Kabalevsky, Bartok, Ives, etc. Again, there are many suggestions in Jane Magrath's book.

Thank you for your support in each of the auditions throughout the year.

Nancy Shelton, NCTM,
Vice President for
Auditions



Membership News

NEW STATE CERTIFIED MEMBERS

Anderson, Robin Piano
8821 S. McKinley, Ok City 73139

Coleman, Ginger Piano/Violin/Theory
6512 N.W. 133, Ok City 73142

Goodman, William D. Clarinet
701 Camelot, Moore 73160

Kokojan, Marianne Piano
416 W. Hill St., Ok City 73118

Szabo, Elisabeth Piano
1124 W. Harnard, Stillwater 74075

Shuller, John Violin/Cello/Music Ed/Theory
1004 Newton Dr., McAlester 74501

Tinkel, Jo Dee Voice
16318 E. Fourth Place, Tulsa 74108

NEW PROVISIONAL MEMBERS

Carlton, Debra Piano
4921 Barbados, Sand Springs 74063

Clements, Hannah Piano
26435 E. 161st St. S., Coweta 74429

Coates, Sarah Violin/Piano
10621 E. Fourth Place, Tulsa 74128

Davis, Sharon Piano
5909 S. Steve, Ok City 73129

Horvath, Nedda Piano/Voice
3216 Ft. Davis Place, Muskogee 74403

Koch, Dionis Piano
1705 S. Cypress Ave., Broken Arrow 74012

Person, Trena Piano
2823 W. 64th St., Tulsa 74132

Powsey, Heidi Piano/Violin
6625 E. 27th Place, Tulsa 74129

Smithen, Jan

P.O. Box 52283, Tulsa, OK 74152 Piano

Tinkel, Jo Dee Piano
16318 E. Fourth Place, Tulsa 74108

Wilbanks, Deborah Piano
505 Rolling Hills Terrace, Edmond 73003

OMTA STATE CERTIFICATION RENEWALS

Banerjee, Anca—Ponca City Piano/Theory

Chung, Young-Eun—Tulsa Piano

Cooper, Mary—Tulsa Cello/Piano/Theory

Crawford, Carmen—Edmond Piano

Ehrlich, Jerree—Broken Arrow Piano

Fang, Ai—Edmond Theory and Composition

Hudson, Rhetta—Shawnee Voice/Vocal Ped./Opera

Jae, Jana—Tulsa Violin

Jarboe, Cindy—Norman Piano

Pullin, Cindy—Norman Piano

Rad, Kathy—Sapulpa Violoncello/Theory

Rovenstine, Nancy—Bartlesville Piano

Sample, JoAnn—Claremore Piano

Tripp, Karen—Claremore Piano

Tyler, Jeannie—Oklahoma City Piano

Watson, Ursula—Norman Piano

Williams, Kim—Edmond Piano

STATUS CHANGES

State Certified to Nationally Certified

Joiner, Marla—Edmond Piano

Karash, Jacquelyn—Oklahoma City Piano

Mayfield, Farren—Jenks Piano

Provisional to State Certified

Carini, Jaime—Catoosa Piano/Theory

Cease, Natalie—Tulsa Piano

Lewis, Maxie Kay—Oklahoma City Piano

College Faculty Certified

Eckard, Dr. Kevin—Edmond Voice

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You can sign up to receive the OMT by email! Email saves time and money. Just drop a line to your editor at : sharon@leskowat.com

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(405) 715-1536

In Memoriam

Dr. Dennis Boe of Ada passed away on November 22, 2005. He was an OMTA member from 2000-2001 and had been a music professor at ECU since 1982.



Member Advertisements

Major Music Co. has re-opened at **110 E. Franklin, Suite 103B**, across from the U. S. Post Office, in Weatherford, Oklahoma.

Rose Ratcliffe, owner, will be in the store from 9-12

A.M. Monday-Thursday. Orders may be placed by phone at **1-800-657-7115** or 580-772-1166, or by e-mail to **majmusic@nts-online.net**. An answering machine is available at all times.

NAMTA Fall Festival

The Norman Area Music Teachers Association held their annual Fall Festival and Kids Fest on October 29 at the Catlett Music Center, University of Oklahoma.

There were 315 entries in piano, flute, strings, voice, and guitar. Ten students were awarded the NAMTA Senior Award (for attending the festi-

val all 4 years of high school): Shelli Chacko, Marla Hargrove, Jefferson Horne, Elizabeth Kao, Sarah Martin, Brent McCalmon, Eric Russell, Archith Ramkumar, Kelsey Rogers, and Elaine Smothers. The NAMTA Fall Festival and Kids Fest are open to all students of OMTA teachers. For more information contact Judith Reeves, chair.



October 29th, 2005— Addie Roberson and Sarah Stevens at the NAMTA Fall Festival.



Oklahoma Music Teachers Association
Newsletter

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