

Thomas Labé, Editor



Oklahoma Music Teacher

From Your President...

Dear Colleagues:

The OMTA State Conference in Ada was full to the brim with exciting performances and sessions. What a great way to start the summer! Thanks to Sandra Meyer and all those who worked behind the scenes to create this outstanding conference.

As my term as OMTA President draws to a close I find myself thinking back over the experiences of the past four years. I have learned so much! My OMTA “degree program” as President-Elect and President included *Planning State Conferences 101 and 102*, *Overseeing OMTA Membership Handbook 101 and 102*, *Board Meetings: Agendas, Reports, and Visions*, and much more. “Memorable Field Trips” included two MTNA Summits in Cincinnati and four amazing MTNA Conferences. And I’m still trying to get a handle on that 4-year required course: *Calming Email Hysteria: How to Manage Having over 5000 messages in Your Inbox*.

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CONFERENCE GUEST ARTIST
ROBERT WEITICH ILLUSTRATES
A POINT DURING HIS PRESENTATION “HUMANIZING THE
TEACHING OF J.S. BACH”

President-Elect Report

Greetings to everyone! It is difficult to believe that, after all the intensity in the several weeks preceding the state conference, it has now come and gone. I always find it exciting and renewing to not only attend the sessions, but to see people – some of whom I have known for many years and a number of new faces. Putting a conference together with its many details involves many people, some in public roles and many behind the scenes. This year in particular I want to thank everyone from **East Central University** who were involved in hosting the conference, especially local co-chairs **Starla Hibler** and **W. T. Skye Garcia**. Much applause to them and to all who helped everything to come about! Looking ahead, Terri Hlubek, new OMTA President-Elect and Conference Chair, is already making plans for the **2011 State Conference at Oklahoma Christian University June 2-4**.

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Mark Your Calendar

- **State Composition Festival application deadline: July 28, 2010**
- **MTNA/OMTA Auditions will be November 5-6, 2010 in Stillwater**
- **South Central Division Competition will be January 15, 2011 at OU**

From Your President

(continued from page 1)

Special thanks go to Past Presidents Mary Sallee, Robert McFadden, and Philelle McBrayer for all their wisdom and patience; I know I have contributed to their overflowing inboxes! And appreciation goes to the tireless Executive Committee: Sandra Meyer, Terri Hlubek, Karen Harrington, Gloria Johnson, Eileen Fox, and Beverly Fitch as well as the entire OMTA Board. It has been a privilege to work so closely with you all, and I look forward to my next two years as Immediate Past President.

I am so proud to be a member of an organization that is continually striving to adapt to the challenges of the 21st century while preserving the integrity and the wisdom of the past, and to honor those with years of experience while we welcome new members with visions for the future.

I hope you are each enjoying a summer of relaxation and rejuvenation!

Sylvia Ryan, NCTM,

PRESIDENT, is a third generation piano teacher and church musician. She received a DMA in Piano Performance and Pedagogy from OU, studying with Digby Bell and Ed Gates. She is a founding member of NIPTA, the parent organization of NAMTA, and NAMTA past president. She teaches independently in Norman.



From The President Elect

(continued from page 1)

What I was I doing to relax after the state conference? Well.... going to another conference, this time the joint conference of Kansas Music Teachers Association and Missouri Music Teachers Association just a week later! (I need to say, parenthetically, that I am really not a conference “junkie”—the conference was in Overland Park, Kansas, very close to my undergraduate alma mater UMKC; and I was invited to come by my long-time friend Linda Khadavi, who has a teaching studio in Overland Park and with whom I gave my junior recital in college.)

One of the most exciting things to me about MTNA/OMTA and now KMTA/MMTA teaching and involvement with music is the amazing *interconnectedness* of our profession. So what happens when an Oklahoma teacher goes to a conference in Kansas? It's interesting—it's all about connections we share as people in music!

I saw the following people who all have ties to Oklahoma and send their best:

Meg Gray, OU graduate;

Judy Macha, recent MTNA Foundation Chair for OMTA till she moved to Kansas and local co-chair for the 2009 OMTA state conference;

Betty Todd Smith and Susan Akin, formerly of Tulsa and TAMTA;

Karen McClellan, piano faculty member at Mid-America Nazarene University, who was Steve Betts' teacher in his undergraduate days;

Melody (Lee) Stroth, Oklahoma Baptist University 1978 graduate in piano performance, who now lives in the Kansas City metro area and this year was named the KMTA Outstanding Teacher of the Year;

Sylvia Coats, Wichita State University piano faculty, who taught at OU for one year and with whom I took a group piano pedagogy course back in my early years of being in Oklahoma;

Sara Ernst and Rebekah Jordan-Miller, OU graduates, who both gave sessions at the KMTA Conference and who gave sessions at our OMTA state conferences-- Sara last year and Rebekah this year.

During this time of transition between offices, I have thought about my goals for OMTA. It is my desire to promote and ensure the future of music for everyone's lives by promoting connectedness within our organization as well as by connecting with other music associations in our state. Musicians are all on the same team!

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your President-Elect and I thank you for all your support. I am counting on that to continue as I move into being President of OMTA in just a few days. Feel free to call on me and let me know how I can help you.

Sandra Meyer, NCTM, President-

Elect, is piano and theory faculty member at OBU and a church organist/pianist since 1975. She has degrees from UMKC Conservatory and the University of Iowa. She has been active in OMTA as a frequent adjudicator and workshop presenter, as well as holding a number of offices at local, district and state levels.



DISTINGUISHED TEACHER AWARD

Deadline: December 1, 2010

The individual selected to be the **OMTA Distinguished Teacher** will be honored at the State OMTA Conference next May and will have a \$250 donation made in their name to the OMTA Endowment Fund at the Communities Foundation of Oklahoma (CFO). That following December, they will automatically be submitted as OMTA's nomination for the **MTNA Distinguished Teacher of the Year** which is awarded at the national conference the following spring. All nominees are reviewed, selected and approved by the OMTA Board at the January meeting. An individual receiving the award will not be eligible to be nominated again for at least ten years.

Any local association, or any individual member of OMTA, may nominate any currently certified OMTA member in good standing. All nominating materials must be typed. **The following materials must be included with each nomination:**

1. Nomination form obtained from July issue of the *Oklahoma Music Teacher* or from the Chair
2. Nomination letter by the nominator
3. Resume of the nominee's professional work
4. Two letters of support from current or former members of OMTA
5. Two letters of support from former or current students; in the case of current school-age students, letters from parents would be preferable

Send materials and form by December 1 to: Sylvia Ryan 2624 Trenton Rd., Norman, OK 73069

Word attachments may be sent via email to: Sylvia2624@cox.net

For questions, contact rmcfadden@se.edu or call: (405) 210-5018

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DISTINGUISHED TEACHER of the YEAR Nomination Form

Name of Distinguished Teacher of the Year Nominee: _____

Nominee's full address: _____

Phone: _____ email: _____

Numbers of years teaching: _____ Current position: _____

Number of Years in OMTA: _____ Local Association: _____

Certification Area(s): _____

Involvement in OMTA: _____

Name of member making nomination: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Local Association: _____ email: _____

OMTA Composition Festival

Rules and Entry Form - 2010

postmark deadline-July 28, 2010

Objectives: To give pre-college composition students an opportunity to participate in a state festival where they can gain experience, receive encouragement and obtain helpful and constructive feedback. It will also provide feedback for students choosing to enter the MTNA competition at the state level.

Entry Process: Students will be grouped into three levels as outlined in the MTNA Competition: Elementary, Jr. High and Sr. High. Entry forms may be found in the spring and summer OMT and also posted on-line at www.okmta.org. Entries will be judged and written critiques will be emailed to the student no later than August 20. This should allow students time to improve their compositions and resubmit for the MTNA competition due the 2nd Tues. of Sept. MTNA applications must be filled in on-line (with credit card) at www.mtna.org.

Fees: Entry fees are \$15 per work. The signed entry form and check (**made out to OMTA**) must be received be postmarked to the designated chair by July 28. A student may enter more than one work per level but must pay an additional fee for each work.

Teacher Qualifications: Teachers must meet the requirements of all other OMTA Auditions and hold provisional or full certification, with dues paid by June 30. See *Rules for all OMTA Auditions* in the OMTA Handbook.

Awards: 1st, 2nd and 3rd place will be awarded in each category at the discretion of the judge. Each winner will receive a certificate and acknowledgement in the OMT. All entrants will receive a critique sheet with judge's comments.

First place winners will be invited to perform at their teacher's OMTA District Conference in early November. At that time, they will receive their reimbursement of the MTNA entry fee*, provided they have entered their winning composition and paid the fee by the entry deadline (2nd Tuesday of September).

*MTNA Composition Competition fees: Elementary: \$50, Jr. High: \$70, Sr. High: \$100).

Rules - PLEASE READ

Submissions must be an original work of at least 16 measures, composed and notated by the student. Pieces may be written for any solo instrument or small ensemble, (no more than 9 performers). There is a 10 minute performance limit per entry. Works for prepared piano are not permitted.

Students should submit a score that includes the title and level of competition. **No reference to the name of the student or teacher should be written on the score.** Measures should be numbered. Identification will be made by entry number. Entries may be submitted in a hand-written or computer generated manuscript created by the student.

The student and teacher must sign the entry form, agreeing that the manuscript and music was done by the student and, that if selected as a winner, the student will agree to enter the MTNA competition that September. Otherwise, the student may enter for 'critique only'.

Students are encouraged to submit a recording of the work with their entry. A performance on an acoustic instrument by the composer is preferred but not required. Please mark the title of the piece on the CD or tape, without identifying the name of the composer. CDs should contain only the work or works being considered. **Compositions and recordings will only be returned if a self-addressed envelope with sufficient postage is included with the entry.**

OMTA State Composition Festival Form

Send postmarked by July 28 or earlier to:

Mary Sallee, Festival Chair 2721 Tropicana Ave, Norman, OK 73071-1709 (405-447-1370)

Category*: Elementary _____ Junior _____ Senior _____ (Critique only_____)

(*Ages as of January 1, 2011 Elementary: 5-10 yrs. Junior: 11-14 yrs. Senior: 15-18 yrs.)

Name: _____ Birth date: _____ Age as of 1/1/11 _____

Address: _____

Parent's name: (include address if different from student) _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____ Email: _____

Teacher: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

Composition: _____ Timing: _____

Performers with description of instruments: _____

If selected as a winner in my level, I agree to enter my winning composition (including any alterations/additions) in the MTNA Composition Competition whose deadline for submission is midnight, the 2nd Tuesday of September.

(Print student name) _____

By signing below, we agree to abide by the rules as stated in the guidelines and verify that I have filled out all necessary info on this form and the entry is an original composition, written and notated by the student.

Signed: _____ (Student) Date: _____

Signed _____ (Teacher) Date: _____

Entry rules and form for the **MTNA Composition Competition** may be found in the summer publication of the American Music Teacher magazine or on-line under competitions at: www.mtna.org.

For MTNA, the Elementary winner will receive \$500 (+ \$200 to the teacher) with 2nd place receiving \$250.

For MTNA, the Junior winner will receive \$1000, (+\$200 to the teacher) with 2nd place receiving \$500.

For MTNA, the Senior winner will receive \$2000, (+\$200 to the teacher) 2nd place will receive \$1000.

Membership News

THEORY REPORT

The theory tests were up by almost 300 this year – big increase. Over 200 were the Levels 1 and 2. Thank you for taking a chance on these levels. It paid off. Overall the grades were good too. Thank you teachers for participating. Theory tests for this year are now for sale - \$18.00 plus postage. This includes all 12 levels of tests, all the keys, the Aural Awareness “script” and a CD of the Aural Awareness. If you have not participated in the theory program yet, I would like to strongly encourage to begin this next year.

Seventeen students received the Claudia Busse Theory Award this year:

TEACHER	STUDENT
Debbie Brown	Julia Wynn
Deanna Calhoun	Natalie Henderson
Jan Culver	Lucy Bates
Georgann Gassaway	Emery Ernst
	Eric Lander
	Hope Tennery
Kathryn Hickman	Ryan Yuyuenyongwatana
Terri Hlubek	Cody Carson
Claudette Hudelson	Braden McCready
Denise Parr	David Haralson
	Mitchell Marrs
Sylvia Ryan	Alexandra Bradford
Nancy Shelton	Savannah Faught
	Joanna Harlin
Lesia Steele	Angela Sung
Marilyn White	Jeremy Acre
Kathleen Wimberly	Joshua Pauls

Thank you.

All members need to check last year's directory and send any email or other address/phone changes to Beverly Fitch ... our new Vice President of Membership and Certification:

Beverly Fitch
1704 S. First Pl.
Broken Arrow, OK 74102
(918) 259-8912
Email: BAFMusic@aol.com

Remember to check your directory to see when your OMTA renewal is due.

OMTA will be implementing a “New Teacher Grant” which will provide MTNA and OMTA dues payment for one year. This will be awarded to the first 5 applicants who qualify for the award. This would apply to new certified members (not provisional applicants) and will have a two year eligibility requirement. All interested applicants need to contact Beverly Firtch.

TAMTA to present a very special workshop this fall.



We will be presenting internationally known Nelita True in a Saturday workshop on September 11, 2010 at Saied Music, 9320 East 71st Street, Tulsa. Ms. True is a Professor of Piano at the Eastman School of Music and her career has taken her all over the world as a performer, adjudicator and clinician. She will speak on “Reliable Memory” and “Developing Musical Independence” during the morning sessions. A master class will be held after lunch. Registration begins at 8:30am and the workshop will end at 2:00 pm. The fee for non-TAMTA members is \$10.00. Lunch will be served for an additional fee of \$10.00. Reservations may be made by calling Linda Nichols at (918) 638-8135. We hope to see you there!

2010 Northeastern State University High School Piano Competition Winners

The 2010 NSU High School Piano Competition, held on April 10th in Tahlequah, produced the following results:

First Place and a prize of \$250 was awarded to Mathew Wang of Fayetteville, Arkansas, a 9th grade student of Linda Rogers.

Second Place and a prize of \$100 was awarded to Sarah Klein of Tulsa, Oklahoma, a 12th grade student of Amy Cottingham.

Third Place and a prize of \$50 was awarded to Darby Gilmore of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, a 12th Grade stu-

Winner of the MTNA Senior Composition Competition *(Sponsored by the Hal Leonard Corporation)*

Benjamin Krumweide, Roger Price, teacher

South Central Division, Oklahoma

Membership News—Conference 2010



THOMAS LANNERS
MAKES A POINT DURING THE CCF PRESENTATION ON CHOPIN'S PRELUDES



CLINICIAN INGRID CLARFIELD TALKS WITH THE AUDIENCE



NEWLY ELECTED OMTA PRESIDENT SANDRA MEYER
ACCEPTS THE GAVER FROM PAST PRESIDENT
ROBERT McFADDEN



CHARLOTTE DUMESNIL PERFORMS
DURING A WINNERS RECITAL

Independent Music Teachers Forum

Survey on Teaching Philosophy: Why do we teach? - What do we teach?

National IMTF Chair, Ethel Iwasaki, recently asked all the state IMTF chairs to conduct a brief survey of piano teachers regarding their teaching philosophies. The intent of the survey was for the results to aid our national leaders in planning national conference sessions. I conducted the survey at the recent board meeting in Ada.

From 10 statements provided in the survey teachers indicated one to three of the statements that exemplified their teaching philosophy. Below are the four statements chosen most frequently among the 34 Oklahoma teachers who took the survey.

My goal is for my students to be well-rounded musicians, with a solid and practical understanding of music theory, history, ear training, and technique. (25%)

My goal is to help my students develop a lifelong love of music as performers, music consumers, and concert attendees. (25%)

My goal is to teach appropriate style and interpretation in a wide range of repertoire.
(19%)

My goal is to develop students who are capable sight readers and skilled sight players of music. (10%)

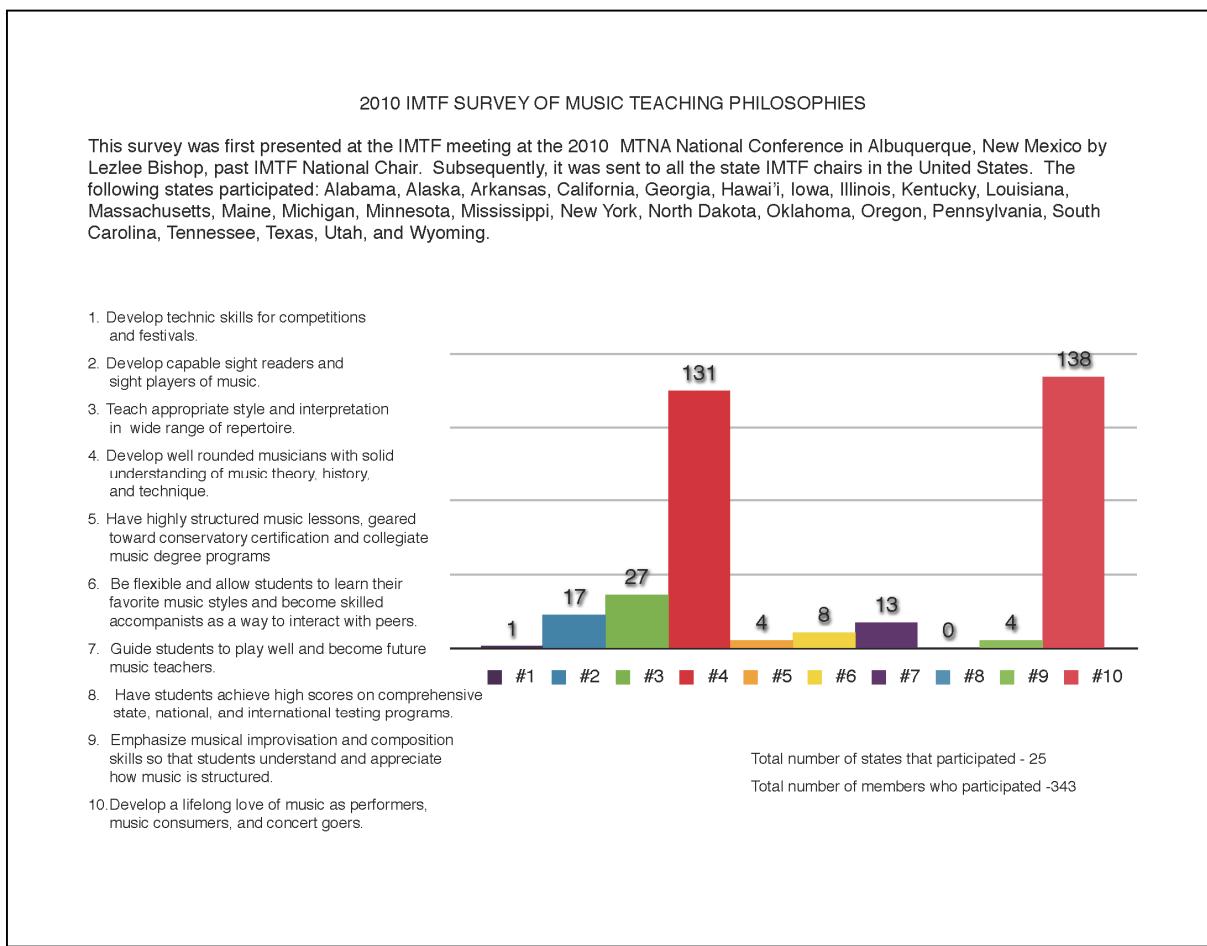
I must admit that this survey bothered me almost as much as being asked to choose which of my children is my favorite! All above are worthy goals, along with most others among the other choices in the survey: technical skills, accompanying skills, preparation for collegiate programs, flexibility for students' desires, and more. Of course these goals are not mutually exclusive for any teacher or student. Perhaps that belies my own inclusive philosophy, but I am grateful for the rich variety of musical goals for my students at their different ages and stages.

The last of the four top responses above reminds me that of all the calls I receive about jobs available, the number one is for accompanists. Remind your students that sight reading skills could pay off!

The chart below indicates that Oklahoma teachers' responses are quite similar to those nationwide.

I leave the state IMTF Chair responsibilities in the great hands of Melissa Johansen.

~ Kathy Thompson



New OMTA Website Taking Shape

The Oklahoma Music Teachers Association!

An Affiliate of the Music Teachers National Association

MEMBER LOGIN: Username: Password: Submit Not yet registered? Click here

HOME
LEADERSHIP
CALENDAR OF EVENTS
CONTESTS AND AUDITIONS
LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS
NEWSLETTER
CONFERENCE 2011
JOIN!
MTNA
CONTACT US

FIND A TEACHER
Primary Teaching Area

Additional Services

Enter Zip Code (optional)

NCTM ONLY
Search

Welcome to the new site

Welcome to the newly revamped OMTA website! The Oklahoma Music Teachers Association (founded in 1929) is an affiliate of the Music Teachers National Association (MTNA). Our association seeks to further the art of music and to promote the growth and professional development of its members by providing programs that encourage and support teaching, performance, composition and research. OMTA is a not-for-profit organization with almost 400 members.

OMTA members maintain state certification which is renewed yearly in a system of continuing education; many members are also nationally certified (NCTM) members of MTNA. Areas of certification include piano, organ, voice, strings, woodwinds, harp, brass, composition, theory, piano pedagogy, and music education. Members include college students, college and university faculty members, independent studio teachers, and community school teachers.

Two District Conferences (East and West) are held each fall. In addition, thirteen local association affiliates of OMTA throughout the state meet monthly and provide programs and workshops, student festivals and recitals, as well as networking opportunities. The OMTA State Conference, held yearly in early June, is a highlight of the year and features nationally known clinicians and artists, along with MTNA/OMTA student winners in recital and Oklahoma presenters.

Information about OMTA activities such as conferences, student auditions, honors and awards, and much more, is available on

The Oklahoma Music Teachers Association Copyright 2010



Over the course of the summer we will be making a transition from the old site (okmta.org) to a brand new database driven site (pictured above). There is a new URL which is oklahomamta.org (once the new site is finished the old site will automatically redirect to the new one). Here are some highlights of the new site (still under construction):

- a “members only” section which will include the following:
 - a comprehensive forms directory for all the auditions, competitions, etc. These forms can be filled typed into and printed directly from the computer
 - discussion boards for independent studio teachers, the College Faculty Forum, etc.
 - a “marketplace” where members can post items for sale, etc.
 - an interactive calendar where members can post events (such as local association meetings, etc.) and send out email announcements
 - the ability for each member to update his/her own profile at any time (including changes of address, phone, email accounts, privacy settings, and much more (see the next page)

Because the new website is built over a powerful database architecture it will be of great use to the organization in the future as it will be able to sort member information, print focused mailing labels and/or email lists, etc.

The complete transition to the new site should be finished by the beginning of the new school year in mid-August.

New OMTA Website Taking Shape

HOW TO SET UP AND UPDATE A MEMBER PROFILE

1. Go to oklahomamta.org
2. Look for "Not yet registered? Click here" on the upper right hand side of the page
3. Click on the link which will take you to the member registration page
4. Create a user name and password (it is highly recommended that you use your email address as your user name - email addresses are unique and therefore avoids possible confusion between similar names)
5. Enter your basic information such as address, phone, email, etc.
6. You can also upload a photograph to your profile (optional). This would also make it easier for posting news and updates on the website and for editing the OMT.
7. Choose your local association (where applicable) from a drop down menu
8. Check the appropriate boxes for "NCTM Certified" and/or "College Faculty"
9. Select the option to receive the OMT either by email or regular mail
10. Select the option to receive the OMTA Handbook either by email or regular mail
11. Finally, choose a privacy option. If you choose to keep your profile private, your name and contact information will not appear in any of the public areas of the site (including the "Find a Teacher" feature on the home page).
12. Once you click submit it will take approximately 48 hours for your member login to become active (this is to prevent non-members from registering: names of those who register must be cross checked with current OMTA members in good standing).

Two other features are highlights of the new website:

1. A scrolling "latest news" bar. Members can submit news stories at any time, without having to wait for the next OMT. It will also be possible to post things such as audition results, etc. within days of the event.
2. A "Find a Teacher" feature. This allows the public to go to the site and search for a teacher by one or (optionally) a second area of specialization, a checkbox to return only "NCTM Certified" teachers and/or search by zip code (optional). After clicking search, a list of potential teachers will appear. The list of teachers furnished only name, city, teaching area(s) and phone number (street and email addresses are not displayed).

THERE ARE STILL SOME ISSUES TO BE WORKED OUT AND A LOT OF INFORMATION TO BE PLACED ON THE SITE, BUT THINGS ARE WELL ON THEIR WAY!

CORRECTIONS AND OMISSIONS

Please make note of the following corrections:

MTNA Junior Division Strings First Alternate

Philip Gamble, Violin (Esther Fellows, Mounds)

MTNA Senior Strings Winner/MTNA National Finalist

Jessica Fellows, Violin (Esther Fellows, Mounds)

Following is the list of student performers for the conference master class (programs were not available that day)

Masterclass: Robert Weirich, Conference Artist and Clinician

Prelude No. 10 in C# minor, Op. 34 - Dmitri Shostakovich

Angela Marshall, student of Dr. Starla Hibler, East Central University

Reflets dans l'eau (*Images*) - Claude Debussy

Jiha Choi, student of Dr. Hyunsoon Whang, Cameron University



OKLAHOMA MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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Have a Great Summer!

We're on the Web!
www.oklahomamta.org

**Mark Your Calendars for
the Next OMTA State Con-
ference: June 2-4, 2011
at Oklahoma Christian
University!**



A PERFORMANCE VENUE IN THE GARVEY CENTER AT
OKLAHOMA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY