



Oklahoma Music Teacher

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KIMBERLY WATSON, EDITOR

From Your President...



I just returned from the MTNA Leadership Summit held near the MTNA Headquarters in downtown Cincinnati. This year, I was accompanied by our president-elect Robert McFadden as well as Karen Harrington, our South-Central Division representative on the MTNA Board.

All state presidents, national officers, board of directors and committee chairs met together with the MTNA staff to be informed about MTNA's programs and services. We also shared ideas, solve problems and expressed the needs of our constituents. Even though this was my 3rd year, I learned a lot and picked up on some ways that we might improve what we do 'at home'.

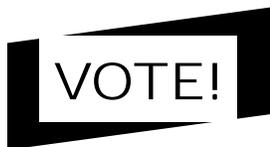
As our membership continues to grow, (and yes, Oklahoma is growing) - each member is asked to volunteer and contribute, amidst the plethora of things competing for our time. Over the weekend, we discussed the issue of volunteerism and the distinct differences in the demographics of our membership (pre-boomers, baby-boomers and generation X/Y members). While each group's needs are very different, it is important to acknowledge what they value and what they have to offer. Surprisingly, our differences have made us a strong organization. Overall, I think we can be proud of the leadership of our organization and know that they are open to our ideas and needs on the state and local level. The staff has always been attentive to my needs and quick to respond to questions and concerns. Financially, I feel like they have planned carefully to keep our organization 'in the black' as they seek to find ways to meet the needs of a new generation.

At the summit, we received the summary of the recent membership survey from our executive director Gary Ingle. The response was good enough for them to see some trends and extract some valuable information. For example, 2 out of 3 members prefer communication via

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ATTENTION: A VOTE by the MEMBERSHIP

Your vote on an important issue is required by December 1 . See ballot on page 9.

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email rather than snail mail! A larger majority is also using technology in their studios and asking for a larger salary from their teaching income than in previous surveys.

Helping Our Colleagues Affected by the Hurricane

At the MTNA Summit much concern was expressed about those in our profession that have been effected by the hurricane. Our national certification chair Pat Tuley in Hattiesburg, MS had been without power for 8 days and still had two huge holes in her roof! A loud SOS came from the Louisiana President stating that of the 100 affected by the hurricane in LA, only 20 teachers had been located and 5 had serious problems. Their state association had to cancel their fall conference and move their audition locations and programs to new locales in order to meet the needs of their teachers.

Because MTNA has started a non-profit fund for all *teachers* affected, the LMTA has started a relief fund for their students (**Save Our Students**). Breakdowns in communication have made it difficult to ascertain the welfare of many of their members, but as more return home, they will let us know of their needs.

What **We** can do

Checks can be made to LMTA (**Save Our Students** in the memo line) and sent to Cindy Hockenjos, NCTM, 334 Wells Road, Arcadia, LA 71001. Unlike the MTNA fund (see mtna.org), contributions are not tax-deductible. Questions can be addressed to LMTA President Sue Steck Turner, 100 Normandie Road, Lafayette, LA 70503. (steckturner@hotmail.com)

Our division competitions will be held in Lafayette this January. Sue will be in contact as to specific needs of their members and students. In the meantime, if you have music methods, materials, flashcards, metronomes, etc. that you would like to donate, please set them aside. If you know of someone that would like to donate a piano, please email Sue with the information. Once they have located some storage space, I can bring the items with me when I attend the division competitions in January.

Mary Sallee, NCTM
OMTA President



Eileen Fox - NEW address
OMTA Treasurer
11205 S Miller
Oklahoma City, OK 73170

President-Elect



Mark your calendars and make plans to join us June 1-3, for next year's state conference. It will be held at the McMahon Fine Arts Complex on the campus of Cameron University in Lawton. I have been working closely with Dr. Hyunsoon Whang of the Cameron music faculty, who is currently president of Lawton MTA. It has been a number of years since we met in Lawton and I sincerely hope to see you there.

Our 2006 guest artist will be Joseph Banowetz of the University of North Texas piano faculty. Banowetz has been described by Fanfare Record Review (U.S.) as "a giant among keyboard artists of our time," by Russia's News (Moscow) as "a magnificent virtuoso, who amazed the public by his deep understanding of the composer's spirit," and by Ruth Muzyczny (Warsaw) as "a virtuoso in the noblest sense of the word." A graduate with a First Prize from the Vienna

Akademie fur Musik und Darstellende Kunst, his teachers have included Carl Friedberg (a pupil of Clara Schumann) and Gyorgy Sandor (a pupil of Bela Bartok). He has been heard as recitalist and orchestral soloist on five continents, and has recorded twenty-four compact discs for the Naxos, Marco Polo, Warner Brothers, and Altarus labels.

Banowitz is internationally recognized as an author and editor. His book *The Pianist's Guide to Pedaling* has been printed in five languages. His piano editions have been translated in Chinese, Korean, and Japanese. Banowetz has served on international piano juries and has been invited to teach and lecture in schools and conservatories throughout the world. He has concertized in 30 countries worldwide, with most recent performances at festivals in the Czech Republic, Italy, Portugal, Spain, and South Africa.

I'll include more details in the next issue.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert McFadden

Theory Update

The theory committee met after the summer board meeting in July and put together a plan to incorporate tests for string students at the 2005-2006 Achievement Auditions. The board approved the creation of written tests for levels 3-6 for this first year. (String students will take the same aural tests as other instruments.) Guidelines for the string tests are included in the 2005-06 OMTA Membership Directory.

HONORS AUDITION

Saturday, February 25, 2006

Sponsored by

**Missouri Southern International Piano Competition
Missouri Southern State University - Joplin, MO**

solo piano performance under 10 minutes

For pianists 18 years old or under residing in AR, KS, MO or OK

Up to five winners

- Cash prize of \$500
- Master Class performance
- Music scholarship to MSSU
- Other awards

Mrs. Gloria Jardon, chair
3950 E. Newman Road
Joplin, MO 6480-1595
417-625-9755
msipc@mssu.edu

Entry deadline February 3, 2006
www.mssu.edu/msipc



New Certification Examinations

Three new Certification Examinations have been completed that meet the requirements for fulfilling Standards II, III and IV, bringing all documents pertaining to the Certification Program in line with the MTNA Professional Certification Standards.

These exams will test candidates in all of the twenty-one performance areas in which MTNA Professional Certification is offered, and will be used on a predetermined rotation plan. A different exam will be provided for those who do not pass the first time.

The Examination will be evaluated on the basis of PASS/FAIL for each of the three Standards (II, III & IV). Only the Standard(s) that results in FAIL will require retesting.

Supporting materials and documents pertaining to the Certification Examination have been revised. In particular, the STUDY GUIDE reflects the new evaluation guidelines. The new examinations are formatted in the following manner:

- ? Standard II: Sections A, B and C
- ? Standard III: Sections A and B
- ? Standard IV: Sections A and B

Answering one question from each of the seven sections will be required. The STUDY GUIDE contains a sample question from each section that reflects the subject matter of its contents. Target date for the inauguration of the new Certification Examination is October 1, 2005.



Don't miss the next
OMT Deadline:

December 15, 2005

contact:

Sharon@leskowat.com



Application for Certification Made Easier

Applying for MTNA Professional Certification has just been made easier with the availability of fillable forms on the MTNA Certification Website. Applicants may now go to the Website, bring up the appropriate forms, type in the information requested and print them out for submitting to MTNA. The forms are available for applicants seeking initial certification as well as for those seeking renewal of certification. This is much easier for applicants than completing the forms by hand and forces the "old typewriter" into even deeper obsolescence. Evaluators will find fillable forms much easier to read. To check out this new service provided by MTNA, visit the MTNA Certification website at www.mtnacertification.org.



VP for Membership and Certification

Would you like to consider the goal of becoming nationally certified? The National

Certification Program exists to improve the level of professionalism within the field of applied music teaching. For the music teaching professional, certification provides prestige, recognition and potential for student recruitment and increased earning power. All music teachers actively engaged in the profession are eligible for MTNA Professional Certification. MTNA will send a packet with helpful information and forms if you call (888) 512-5278, Ext. 224.

Here are several ideas from Brian Shepard, Director of Marketing and Public Relations, that local associations can use to promote national certification.

Perhaps during a "Certification Moment" a few times each year during your local association meeting:

- Feature the "testimonial" of a NCTM member
- Give a 60 second presentation on the certification process
- Honor newly certified members with flowers, a book or mug, etc.
- Display some materials from the application packet, portfolio guidelines, study guide with contact information, etc.
- Announce available study classes or groups

Many of you are working towards this goal. Congratulations on the progress you are making! Be sure to read the application time limit policy included in this OMT. The next national certification exam will be given at OBU, Room #140 on Saturday, November 5, 2005 from 1:00 – 4:00

p.m. It will be offered again during our State Conference on June 2, 2006 at Cameron University from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m., room TBA.

Sandra Pierce
VP for Membership/Certification

www.okmta.org

Certification Application Time Limit

At its July meeting, the MTNA Board of Directors approved the following policy regarding the two year time limit for completing the certification process:

"The MTNA Professional Certification process must be completed within a two-year time limit from the date the application is received at MTNA Headquarters. If the process is not completed within two years, the applicant may request, in writing, a single one-year time extension, after which, an application extension fee of \$100.00 will be assessed."

The above policy replaces the former one found in the Application Packet's **FAQ** that read:

"Is there a time limit for becoming certified once I have sent my initial application and fee? Yes: you have two years from the date of application. Candidates exceeding this time limit will be assessed a new application fee."

The new policy allows candidates who encounter extenuating circumstances during the two-year certification process to request, in writing, a single one-year extension before being assessed an application extension fee.

OOPS!**Corrections and Additions**

Eileen Fox - NEW address
OMTA Treasurer
11205 S Miller
Oklahoma City, OK 73170

Judy Gorton—NEW address
9400 S. Hudson
Oklahoma City, OK 73139
i-a-s@coxinet.net

We apologize for the omission of these members from the most recent OMTA directory. Please add this information to your directory.

Thomas Labé
2800 W. Gore BLVD
Lawton, OK 73505-6377
580-581-2431
tlabe@cameron.edu

Certified in Piano (6/09)

Jenarold Jones
4900 S. McCord Road
Ponca City, OK 74604-8706
580-765-2021
larry4900@poncacity.net
Certified in Piano 6-30-09

CORRECTIONS

Jan Smithen
PO Box 52283
Tulsa, OK 74152
918-744-9470

Provisional: expires 6-30-11

Nedda Horvath of Muskogee should be listed as State Certified in Voice instead of provisional.

Karen Harrington has a new email address:
karenharrington@cox.net

Please Forward any information to the next OMT to

OUR NEW OMT EDITOR

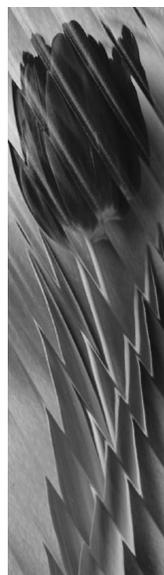
Sharon Leskowat

7815 E. 80th
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74133-3630
918-252-7808

Or submit information electronically to:

Sharon@leskowat.com

Next OMT Deadline is December 15, 2005

**IN MEMORY**

Guyla Kuntz of Bartlesville passed away July 30, 2005.

Rosemary Huff of Tulsa, passed away August 5, 2005.

Wanda Griffith of Jenks, passed away September 19, 2005

We will miss these long time members of OMTA who were all active and contributed to their local associations for many years.

Learn what MTNA is doing to help its teachers affected by Hurricane Katrina check out:

www.mtna.org

MTNA Welcomes a New Editor for the OMT

Sharon Leskowitz has graciously agreed to serve as the new editor of the OMT. Her first issue will be the January 2006 issue. The deadline is December 15, 2005. Help her make this a very special issue by submitting all of your local news and activities to your new editor as soon as possible.



OMTA's Informal Survey Results

2005 Membership Survey Results: 2 out of 3 MTNA members prefer on-line communication.



Save our editor time, and save our association money and paper - sign up to receive *your* OMT hot-off-the press. Contact sharon@leskowitz.com today.



Get the Latest

There is a wealth of information available to you on the MTNA and OMTA web sites. Visit regularly to get the most current information.

MTNA: www.mtna.org

OMTA: www.okmta.org

Liszt/Matthay Festival



"Liszt and Matthay: Roots and Legacy" is the title of the joint 2006 Festival of the American Liszt Society and the American Matthay Society hosted by The Hugh Hodgson School of Music at the University of Georgia in Athens, February 9-11, 2006. MTNA members will be offered a discounted registration fee. Please check the American Liszt Society website (www.americanlisztsociety.org) after September 15 for a festival schedule and downloadable application form.

Three generations of Liszt scholars will present lectures. Keynote speaker is Jim Samson (University of London), whose book on Liszt's Transcendental Etudes won the 2004 Royal Philharmonic Society Book Award. Alan Walker, author of the definitive biography of Liszt, speaks on Liszt and his pupils. Gregor Benko, founder of the International Piano Library, will speak about and present historical piano recordings.

An exhibit of Lisztian memorabilia will be on exhibit in the Georgia Museum of Art. The Museum Gift Shop will feature books by Festival presenters.

Concerts include works of Liszt, Hummel, Czerny, Raff, Tausig, Bülow,

Vianna da Motta, d'Albert, Haydn, Schumann, and Ravel. Pianists include Nancy Elton, James Giles, Howard Karp, Anne Koscielny, Fernando Laires, Evgeny Rivkin, Katia Skanavi, Jane Solose, Martha Thomas, David Watkins, and Richard Zimdars. Ann Schein will play the closing recital.

VP for Local Associations and Collegiate Chapters

Dear OMTA Members,

It is an honor to serve as your Interim Vice President for Local Associations and Collegiate Chapters. I ask you to keep Sandra Meyer in our thoughts and prayers as she embarks on her new responsibilities including being closer to her step-mother. When she and President Mary Sallee asked me to carry on the "torch", I was and am honored. I would like to introduce myself and my background. I am from Bangkok, Thailand where I completed my undergraduate studies in Piano Performance. As a Fulbright scholar, I received a Master of Music in Music Education from Eastman School of Music. I obtained a Doctor of Musical Arts from University of Oklahoma in Piano Performance and Pedagogy. Every summer, I teach and give workshops and master-classes in Bangkok. Currently, I am a piano faculty at the University of Central Oklahoma.

Last year UCO Collegiate Chapter grew from zero to ten members. (After Jan Steele retired the chapter was inactive for several years.) We, UCO Collegiate Chapter members, went to perform for Oklahoma Christian Retirement Center twice. The students felt gratified and appreciated in the process. They even received a thank-you-note from the residents. I hope this space in the Newsletter can be an exchange board for ideas in "spicing up" our activities in all Associations and Collegiate Chapters.

I want to do the best to help and support you and your Associations/Chapters in everyway I can. Please help me in getting to know you and how I can

enhance you in your endeavors. I am new to this position as well as being the new Piano Division Head at the University of Central Oklahoma in Edmond. I am open to suggestions to be efficient and effective in both jobs. Please contact me at these email addresses: ccharoenwongse@ucok.edu or chindaratc@yahoo.com

I am looking forward to a great year with all of you.

Best wishes,
Chindarat Charoenwongse

MTNA Foundation News



It's easy as pie!
To contribute to the Foundation Fund online,
* Go to the MTNA Website
(www.mtna.org)

- * Click on MTNA Foundation
- * Click on Make a Contribution Online
- * Fill out the online donation form
- * Click on Submit Form

At our state board meeting in June we voted by secret ballot to honor another Foundation Fellow. A Fellow is established by donating \$1,000.00 in the name of an individual who has made an impact on the music profession through MTNA membership and service, has had an exemplary career that has shaped and inspired others and who is held in high esteem by peers. Please help us reach our goal so we can honor this individual next Spring at our National Conference. Remember! You must designate "OK Foundation Fellow" in the memo area of your check (or online) so that your donation will go towards the Fellow Fund. Thank you! I am so proud to serve as your Foundation Chair.

Kathy Kochheiser, Oklahoma Chair
MTNA Foundation

Oklahoma Music Teacher
Sharon Leskowat
7815 E. 80th
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74133-3630



Email: Sharon@leskowat.com

**WE'RE ON THE
WEB:**

WWW.OKMTA.ORG