

Thomas Labé, Editor



From Your President...

Dear OMTA Colleagues,

I hope your fall teaching semester is going well, and that you're planning to take advantage of this year's OMTA/MTNA and local association activities for both students and teachers. This fall I am looking forward to attending both the East and West District Conferences; I know that seeing old friends, meeting new members, and attending sessions and workshops will help me stay connected and inspired. My students are gearing up for Junior Auditions and the NAMTA Fall Festival; yet another year of sharing music has begun.

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First Annual Kamp Keyboard a Success!



(Read the full story on page 2)

President-Elect Report

Plans are proceeding for the next conference to be held June 3-5 in the new Hallie Brown Fine Arts Center at East Central University. This is a brand new facility which is being occupied this fall for the first time. It is absolutely beautiful and all of us will enjoy hearing from Ingrid Clarfield, Hyunsoon Whang, Thomas Lanners, and many others to be announced. Last year was the eightieth anniversary of the founding of OMTA, but 2010 is the eightieth anniversary of the first OMTA Convention, so we will be highlighting that major event in our history. You won't want to miss it!

~Sandra Meyer

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Mark Your Calendar

- Eastern District Conference: November 7, 2009
- Western District Conference, November 21, 2009
- Commissioned Composer Nominations: November 1, 2009

From Your President

(continued from page 1)

A special thank you goes out to Eileen Fox, who facilitated getting the OMTA Membership Handbook out in record time this year. Thanks also to Gloria Johnson, Nancy Shelton, Hyunsoon Whang, and Auda Marie Thomas for their prompt contributions. We have all worked hard to provide accurate information and clear guidelines. Much of the Handbook information is also to be found on the current website www.okmta.org, and webmaster Thomas Labé has targeted January for the debut of our new, enhanced website.

So many OMTA members are working together to provide worthwhile audition and performance opportunities for students of all levels, as well as continuing education and professional support for members at all stages of their teaching and performing careers. The encouragement and energy we give to each other as we work and play together will help us all weather the recovering economy, reach our often over-scheduled students, and put a little fun in our own hectic lives.

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 immediate past president. She teaches independently in Norman.



First Annual *Kamp Keyboard*

June 8th-12th was an exciting week this summer as COMTA hosted 26 piano students, 6th-11th grade, at Catch-A-Glimpse Retreat Center for the first annual *Kamp Keyboard*.

Kamp Keyboard Scholarship Auditions were held this spring in Memory of Clay Culver, son of COMTA member, Jan Culver. Over 30 students auditioned, and 10 students received scholarships for the week long day camp. 26 students attended *Kamp Keyboard*, which provided an opportunity for summer study in a natural environment that enabled musical enrichment and education outside the format of their private lessons.

Students had the opportunity to excel in areas of theory, music history, improvisation, practicing techniques, ensemble playing, and private study. They also participated in daily master class opportunities as well as “hot topics” provided by staff members. Outdoor adventure activities were offered each day for one hour including archery, fishing, and low ropes course initiatives. Students also enjoyed making a tie dye t-shirt, water balloon launching, and a music treasure hunt which ended up at a hay trailer full of wonderful sheet music and whistle pops! You can view all the fun we had on our new website at www.comta.net by clicking on *Kamp Keyboard* and scrolling down to play the music and picture video.

Our wonderful staff included Kaye Shields, Susan Ogilvy, Jan Culver, Melissa Johansen, Jolene Bolin, Terri Hlubek, and Kim Williams. We had many other wonderful teachers who volunteered their time to make this week special for our campers, as well as Larson’s Music who donated three Clavinovas for the week.

COMTA is currently planning the 2nd Annual *Kamp Keyboard*, and are accepting donations and well as applying for grants to help support the camp for next years students. If you are interested in helping to support this program, please contact Terri Hlubek, COMTA’s president, at 405-755-3965 or president@comta.net Together we can make a difference!

~Kim Williams (*COMTA* Publicity & Historian Chair)

Western District Conference

The Western District Conference for OMTA will be held on Saturday, November 21, 2009, at Oklahoma City Community College.

The guest clinician will be Dr. Kevin Costley. Dr. Costley holds several graduate degrees in the areas of curriculum and instruction and Pedagogy/literature, including a Ph. D from Kansas State University. For nearly two decades he was owner/director of the Keyboard Academy, specializing in small group instruction. He has been on the faculty at Inspiration Point Fine Arts Colony Piano camp for fifteen years. Dr. Costley is an exclusive major writer for the FJH music Company. He has composed and published over 180 piano works. His solos/ensembles have been and are on the National Federation of Music Clubs list and the Royal Conservatory of music list. He serves frequently as a clinician for piano workshops, adjudicates numerous state, regional, and national/international composition contests and judges many piano festivals and competitions.

Topics for the conference sessions will include "Tips on Piano Ensemble Playing" - teachers will receive a detailed handout including a list of a wide range of ensemble repertoire and will perform some of the piano duets; "What do teachers want from Adjudicators?" - Dr. Costley will present findings from his thesis research with a practical analysis encouraging audience discussion; "Breathing New Life into your Music Organization" - try some fresh ideas for your meetings.

Junior Audition winners will be featured in recital programs at 9: am and 3:15 pm.

A luncheon and business meeting will be at 12:15 pm.

Mark your calendar and make plans to attend!

Eastern District Conference

The Eastern District Conference will be held on Saturday, November 7, 2009, in the Raley Chapel on the Campus of Oklahoma Baptist University (Shawnee).

We are pleased to announce that this year's conference artists will be duo pianists Carol Bell and Sandra Meyer, Oklahoma Baptist University piano faculty. The conference workshop, "Teaching Composition in the Studio" will be presented by Claudette Hudelson of Broken Arrow. Claudette maintains a large piano studio and is an active composer. We will also hear the recitals of the Junior Audition winners. Carol Bell, OBU, has once again planned a wonderful luncheon for us. Please make your reservation today. We are looking forward to seeing everyone at conference!

SCHEDULE:

9:00am - Continental breakfast (room 142) and registration

9:30am - Recital, Junior Audition winners

10:45am - Conference Artists Recital

11:45am - Luncheon and Business Meeting (Menu: Basil Chicken, Mixed Green Salad with choice of Ranch or Raspberry dressing, Wild Rice, Green Beans Almondine, Key Lime Pie, Coffee, Teac, Water and Rolls)

1:30pm - Workshop: "Teaching Composition in the Studio" - Claudette Hudelson

2:30pm - Recital, Junior Audition winners



A Call For Nominations for 2011 Commissioned Composer

Presently, your OMTA Commissioned Composer Committee is working in relationship with two different commissioned composers. One of these is 2009 commissioned composer, Dr. L. Stephen Sewell. His commissioned composition, "Suite for Violin, Viola, Cello and Piano," was recently premiered at our state conference, and will soon be submitted to the MTNA national competition. The winner of this competition (announced in January 2010) is proclaimed the MTNA-Shepherd Distinguished Composer of the Year and receives a check for \$3,000 and a concert performance of the work during the next MTNA National Conference.

The second of our composers is Dr. Marvin L. Lamb, whose selection as the OMTA 2010 Commissioned Composer was announced at the state conference. Professor of Music at the University of Oklahoma, Dr. Lamb is actively preparing a new work for presentation at our 2010 state conference. The committee offers its congratulations to Dr. Lamb and our thanks to the members of OMTA for their assistance in the selection process.

It is now time to enter into the process of selecting our 2011 commissioned composer. **The committee is hereby soliciting nominations for the 2011 OMTA commissioned composer.**

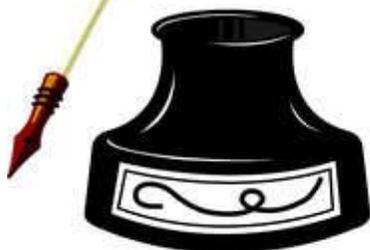
Nominations may be submitted to the chair of the commissioned composer committee: W. T. Skye Garcia -- wgarcia@ecok.edu or 1824 East 17th St., Ada, OK 74820

- Please include nominee's name, address, phone #, and email address.
- **Nominations are due by November 1, 2009.**
- Any member or local association may recommend composers for consideration.
- When considering making a nomination, first ascertain the interest of the prospective nominee in pursuing the commission. In the past we have had nominees decline.
- Upon receipt of the name of each composer nominee, the commissioned composer committee will contact the individual and request a resume (or curriculum vitae) and an audio sampling of their previous work.
- **The deadline for composers to submit materials/CD to the Chair is December 1.**

It is very important that all nominees understand that the commission is not a prize for an extant composition; rather, it is a meaningful encouragement for a recognized composer to create a new musical work.

The commissioned composer committee would like to thank each of you for your thoughtful participation in the current selection process. If you have any questions or need for assistance, please feel free to contact the chair or any member of the committee.

~W. T. Skye Garcia (Chair, OMTA Commissioned Composer Committee)



2009 OMTA Composition Festival Winners Announced

The state composition festival entries were up this year with six elementary entries, four Junior High and five Senior High. The first place winners will perform their winning entry on one of the recitals at the Eastern or Western District Conference in November. At that time, they will receive reimbursement for their entry fee in the MTNA Composition Competition held this fall.

First place in the Elementary Division went to Gabriel Hyde from Tulsa, student of Janell Whitby

2nd Place went to Benjamin Brewster from Oklahoma City, student of Christy Brewster

3rd place went to Benjamin Rosfeld from Bethany, student of Marilyn Rosfeld

First place in the Junior Division went to Ashlin Hunter from Stillwater, student of Krystal Hennessey

2nd place went to Jack Angus McNally from Bethany, student of Marilyn Rosfeld

3rd place went to Holden Hill from Edmond, student of Fran Young

1st place in the Senior Division went to Benjamin Krumweide from Claremore, student of Roger Price

2nd place went to Zack Garcia from Ada, student of W.T. Skye Garcia

3rd place went to J.D. McNally from Bethany, student of Marilyn Rosfeld

~ Mary Sallee, State OMTA Composition Festival Chair

From MTNA



Photo taken at the 2009 MTNA Foundation Gala at the Georgia Aquarium in Atlanta. Robert McFadden was OMTA's eighth Foundation Fellow recipient. Left to right: Brian Chung, Senior Vice President of Kawai America Corporation, Gail Berenson, NCTM, Immediate Past President of MTNA, Robert McFadden, NCTM, Immediate Past President of OMTA, Dr. Gary Ingle, Executive Director and CEO of MTNA.

East District Ballot: Vote by October 30

All OMTA members who live in the East District (these areas include Bartlesville, Broken Arrow, Durant, Ardmore, McAlester, Shawnee, Tulsa, Muskogee, Stillwater, Ponca City, and Tahlequah) will vote either Online or by Mail for our East District slate of officers. You do not have to be a member of a local association to be eligible to vote. Skye Garcia has agreed to continue as member-at-large for another term (2 years).

Please E-mail your choice on the following ballot by October 30 to: Ron Lewis at lewis0814@sbcglobal.net OR you may print or detach this page with your choice marked and send to Ron Lewis, 30 Pam Drive, Shawnee, OK 74804. Thank you for your prompt response.

Ron Lewis, Kathy Wilson, Mary Ann Head - Nominating Committee for East District.

Co-President: _____ Michael Dean, Shawnee - _____ Robert McFadden, Durant

PLEASE REMEMBER THE DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 30

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Reminder: The Deadline for Nominations for the Distinguished Teacher of the Year Award is December 1, 2009

You can find the nomination form on page three of the July OMT [available at this link: <http://www.thomaslabe.com/media/OMT-July-15-2009-EEdition.pdf>]

A New Website in the Works for the OMTA

Construction has been underway since last summer on a completely new website for the *Oklahoma Music Teachers Association*. If all goes according to plan the site will be up and running in time for the January board meeting. Following are some of the highlights that members and visitors to the new site can expect:

- a “members only” section for current members of the OMTA—these pages will contain a forms directory, membership directory, and all of the material contained in the handbook; members will be able to make changes to their profile (address, contact information, privacy settings, select paper or electronic options for the handbook, OMT, etc.), as well as a number of discussion boards.

- the home page will feature a welcoming message from the current OMTA president and several columns of current news items (which will be updated periodically to reflect events taking place in the organization)

- visitors will be able to sign up to receive the OMT via email (which could help generate interest in OMTA and build membership)

- the home page will also have a “find a teacher” feature where visitors can enter a zip code and choose an area of specialty—the website will then search the database and return a list of local teachers (members can opt out of being listed here by adjusting the privacy settings of their own profile)

- in short, the new website will put everything now found in the handbook and the OMTs at every members fingertips 24/7 and offer lots of information to visitors

Look for complete details in the January OMT!

The New Face of MTNA Certification

I enjoyed seeing many of you at this year's state conference in Tulsa. It is always fun to attach faces to all the membership names that come across my desk! Remember to check your directory to see when your OMTA renewal is due. You don't have to wait until 6-30-10 to renew it. Send in the paperwork now! Once again, I have listed the new projects that will be required of the Nationally Certified Music Teacher (NCTM) as of January 1, 2010. You will then have one year from your application date to complete and submit the five projects. If you wish to be certified under the current system, you must submit your completed application packet and fee by December 31, 2009 (postmarked). You will then have the standard two years to complete the current certification process either by Examination or Portfolio. Keep in mind that the current system is accepting transcripts. The new projects (January 1, 2010) do not require any transcripts. I know that OMTA Certification and MTNA Certification can be very confusing. Please feel free to call me, Terri Hlubek at 405-755-3965, and I will answer any questions that you may have concerning certification!

The New Face of MTNA Certification

Project No. 1: Write Your Teaching Philosophy

Project No. 2: Analyze Four Teaching Pieces

- give the historic background, theory analysis and teaching approach for each of the four teaching pieces provided

Project No. 3: Present Your Teaching

- video record three lesson segments with the same student
- Stan* • play and video record 5-10 minutes of pieces that are listed as a level 7 or above in *The Pianist's Guide to the Standard Teaching and Performance Literature* by Jane Magrath (these pieces do not have to be memorized)
- write a self evaluation of each recorded lesson segment
- discuss how you adapt the lessons to this student's learning modality
- provide your goals for this student
- show how you assess the outcomes of your teaching

Project No. 4: Share Information About Your Teaching Environment

- describe how you foster a teaching environment that promotes learning in your studio
- provide supporting documentation
- list and describe how you use at least three resources in your studio or classroom

Project No. 5: Discuss Your Studio Policies and Business Ethics

- describe how you would ethically deal with three scenarios involving students, colleagues and parents
- document your professional, financial and business policies

Auditions Update

Greetings:

Another teaching year is surrounding us and I hope all of you are ready for a wonderful, positive rapport with your students and colleagues. The Audition Committee has worked diligently to clarify rules and make a positive year for auditions and competitions.

Teachers please check your MTNA/OMTA certification expiration date found in the back of your 2009-2010 Membership Handbook and list it on all audition forms. If you did not pay your dues by June 30, 2009, please include the \$25 late fee with your first OMTA audition entry.

I personally want to thank Eileen Fox and Auda Maria Thomas for their work on the Membership Handbook. I also want to thank our Audition Chairs in volunteering their time and expertise for our students.

If there is anything you need to discuss regarding materials or rules, etc. please phone or email me. We need to respect and work together for Harmony among ALL.

Gloria Johnson, NCTM, VP

for Auditions has been a MTNA member since 1970 and has taught piano for 47 years. She studied with Lytle Powell, OU; John Smith, Phillips University; Dorothy Gideon at TU and continues to study with Aldo Mancinelli from Illinois. She is currently MTNA Junior Performance Coordinator for the South Central Division and Vice President of Auditions for Oklahoma. Gloria maintains a full piano studio of all levels of advancement.





OKLAHOMA MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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Have a Great Holiday Season!

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



THE DALLAS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
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APPLICATION DEADLINE:
FEBRUARY 22, 2010



AWARDS

FIRST PLACE

\$3,500 Scholarship
& an opportunity to
perform with the DSO

SECOND PLACE

\$2,500 Scholarship

THIRD PLACE

\$1,500 Scholarship

**ALL OTHER
FINALISTS**

\$250 Scholarship