

# SOUNDWAVE

OKLAHOMA MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION



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## FROM THE PRESIDENT

BY DANNY CALHOUN

The coming of spring has always signaled a time of rebirth, an opportunity to reimagine, and a renewal of energy that can lead to revitalization. Across the OMTA landscape, spring also signals a time of preparation and anticipation for District and State Achievement Auditions, E-Achievement Auditions, Junior and Senior Competitions, and innumerable studio recitals, all of which help create a sense of intensity, purpose, and fun for so many! I wish you and your students much enjoyment and success in all these endeavors. As the end of my time as president of OMTA approaches, my appreciation only continues to grow for the efforts of so many in our wonderful organization at the national, state, and local levels who volunteer their time, energy, and expertise to provide opportunities for all of our students.

I am looking forward to representing OMTA at the MTNA Conference in Atlanta, GA. It is exciting that the large group of attendees from our state will be able to enjoy hearing Oklahoma colleagues presenting sessions, support several Oklahoma students participating in the MTNA Competitions, and celebrate our 2024 MTNA Foundation Fellow, OMTA's Adjudication Coordinator and Parliamentarian, Kathy Wilson.

I am also pleased to announce that your OMTA Board has selected Jessica Headley, OMTA's Co-Vice President for Auditions and Competitions and Social Media Chair, as our MTNA Foundation Fellow for 2025 and Dr. Hyunsoon Whang as the recipient of OMTA's Distinguished Teacher Award for 2024!

I encourage you to make plans to attend our OMTA State Conference this June 7-8 at the University of Oklahoma in Norman. We are all indebted to the conference committee; Conference Coordinator, Cynthia Pullin; and our President-Elect and Conference Chair, J. P. Murphy for their vision and efforts in curating a wonderful conference experience for all of us! Please look for additional conference details in this edition of the OMTA's newsletter.

As always, thanks to each of you for your work on behalf of your students, communities, colleagues, and profession. It is a privilege to serve alongside you as we work to make OMTA the best it can be.

# NEWS AND EVENTS

UNIVERSITIES

## Oklahoma State University

The annual OSU High School Piano Competition took place on Saturday, Feb. 10th, and as always, it was an exciting event! The photo includes the winners and the OSU Greenwood School of Music piano faculty members who served as judges, all on stage in the Recital Hall of the McKnight Center for the Performing Arts.

Left to right are Dr. Hyejin Cho; First Place (\$500) winner Samuel Rhoades of Nichols Hills, Oklahoma, student of Ruirui Johnson; Honorable Mention Tavin Rezac of Catoosa, student of Tatyana Lantos; Third Place (\$150) winner Cristian Saenz of Yukon, student of Jessica Wise; Second Place (\$250) winner Brysen Norman of Edmond, student of Terri Hlubek; Prof. Heather Lanners; and Dr. Thomas Lanners. Congratulations to all the talented students who competed, with great thanks to their supportive parents and teachers!

Join us for an exciting week during the Chamber Music at the McKnight Center: Piano Spectacular (Feb. 28 - Mar. 3)! This season, Artistic Director Anne-Marie McDermott reinvents the chamber music experience with an all-piano program, featuring Anton Nel, Ilya Schmukler and Pedja Mužijević. All four pianists will present a public masterclass on Wednesday, February 28, 2024, 3 - 5 p.m. in the McKnight Center Recital Hall, a panel discussion on Thursday, February 29, 2024 1:30 - 2:30 p.m., and the "Piano Spectacular" concert on Sunday, Mar. 3 at 3:00 p.m. in the McKnight Center Performance Hall. Enhance your concert experience with the pre-concert "Prelude" conversation with the guest artists hosted by Dr. Thomas Lanners at 2:00 - 2:30 p.m. in the McKnight Center Recital Hall. Full information for all events can be found here: [www.mcknightcenter.org/online](http://www.mcknightcenter.org/online)

Be sure to save the date for the 2024 OSU Cowboy Music Camp! The camp, which is open to all instrumentalists, will run from July 7 - 12, 2024 at the beautiful Greenwood School of Music on the campus of Oklahoma State University. High school PIANO STUDENTS (9th grade through graduating 12th grade) will have the opportunity to work daily with OSU piano faculty members in private lessons and master classes. The camp will also include workshops, performances and social activities for the whole camp. Tell your students and their friends - registration is open!

[https://cas.okstate.edu/greenwood\\_school\\_of\\_music/summer\\_music\\_camp.html](https://cas.okstate.edu/greenwood_school_of_music/summer_music_camp.html)

Gershwin, Ravel, Liszt, Debussy & more! This concert is a must-see for chamber music fans.



### University of Oklahoma

The University of Oklahoma hosted its annual Winter Piano Camp on January 20, 2024. Members of the piano faculty welcomed high school students from Oklahoma and Texas to the Catlett Music Center. The day included individual lessons with piano faculty members, ensemble reading sessions, a piano literature lecture, performances by piano faculty members, and performances by current OU students. The camp concluded with a showcase recital featuring four high school performers, James Blackwell (student of Sylvia Ryan), Lupe Oloyede (student of Lewis Warren), Frances Price (student of Shannon Reeves), and Sophia Stoops (student of Sylvia Ryan). Congratulations to all the talented students who participated in this year's camp and a special thank you to parents and teachers for their support! For more information on the 2025 Winter Piano Camp, please visit [www.ou.edu/finearts/music/workshops\\_camps](http://www.ou.edu/finearts/music/workshops_camps).

Congratulations to OU MTNA Collegiate Chapter members Anna Dunbar, Guilherme Lopes Correa, and Marissa Mathia for presenting Musical Friends: Developing Musicianship and Collaborative Skills in Elementary Pianists at the MTNA Collegiate Chapter Symposium. David Mach, candidate for the DMA in Piano Performance and Pedagogy, presented a session titled Painting at the Piano with Science: The Physiology of Tone Color.

Qishan Shi, second-year DMA in Piano Performance and Pedagogy student, was named winner in the Young Artist Performance category of the MTNA South Central Division and will be competing at the MTNA National Conference. Emily Barr, candidate for the DMA in Piano Performance and Pedagogy, will present a session titled Musical Globetrotting: Character Pieces from Around the World for the Intermediate Pianist and Shara Sun, third-year DMA in Piano Performance and Pedagogy student, will present a session titled The Ukrainian Canadian Identity: Dissonance as Storytelling in Larysa Kuzmenko's Piano Works at the MTNA National Conference in Atlanta, GA. OU faculty Sara Ernst and J. P. Murphy will also participate at MTNA.

The University of Oklahoma Piano Area will be hosting guest pedagogy clinicians Penelope Roskell on March 8 and Jason Sifford on March 12-13, 2024. For additional information, please contact Dr. Sara Ernst at [smernst@ou.edu](mailto:smernst@ou.edu). DMA in Piano Performance and Pedagogy candidates Guilherme Lopes Correa, Nasim Moattar, and Shara Sun will be presenting in-person and virtual workshops on April 19 and April 26, 2024, at the Catlett Music Center. The presentation schedule and session titles will soon be made available on the OU Piano Pedagogy website: <https://pianoped.ou.edu/workshops>. All OMTA members are invited to attend.

The University of Oklahoma is looking forward to hosting the 2025 MTNA Collegiate Symposium on January 18-19, 2025. Mark your calendars and join us for this event featuring top students from around the country. Keep an eye out for the Call for Proposals, which MTNA will announce in April.



# NEWS AND EVENTS

UNIVERSITIES, MEMBERS, IN MEMORIAM

## University of Central Oklahoma

Dr. Ryan Fogg will present a solo recital on March 26 at 7:30 PM in Radke Fine Arts Auditorium on the campus of UCO. Dr. Fogg is Professor of Music and Director of Keyboard Studies at Carson-Newman University.

This event is free and open to the public. Please email Dr. Sallie Pollack at [Spollack@uco.edu](mailto:Spollack@uco.edu) for more information. To learn more about Dr. Ryan Fogg, you can visit <https://ryanfogg.weebly.com/>



The 2024 Kuleshov International Piano Festival and Competition will take place on the UCO campus in Radke Performance Auditorium April 12-14, 2024. This biennial event brings young pianists from all over the world to compete and celebrate the art of piano playing. This year's esteemed guest artist/jurors, Nadejda Vlaeva and Ilya Shmukler, will join Valery Kuleshov in giving solo recitals Friday (7:30 PM), Saturday (7:30 PM) and Sunday (2:00 PM) respectively. The weekend culminates in a competition final recital round on Sunday evening at 7:00 PM.

The semi-final round for the high school division takes place on Friday and the semi-final round for the collegiate division takes place Saturday.

All events are free and open to the public. For more information, email Dr. Sallie Pollack at [Spollack@uco.edu](mailto:Spollack@uco.edu).

For a schedule of events and information visit <https://www.uco.edu/cfad/academics/music/the-kuleshov/>

## From the Beginning

Linda M. Fields, NCTM - Former Chair, NCKP Committee on Young Musicians, birth-9 yrs.

### Start with the Body, Part 2 of 2

Try these activities, inspired by Dalcroze, Kodaly, Orff, Laban respectively.

Don't hurry. Go one step at a time over several weeks or months.

#### RHYTHM:

- Put the macrobeat in feet.
- Layer on microbeat in hands.
- Add the tune's rhythm as a chant.

#### MELODY:

- Echo elements from the tune.
- Start with neutral "la". Eventually use solfege.

#### HARMONY:

- Have student answer with Do (or La) after hearing Sol (or Mi).
- Sing "resting tone is here" at the piece's end.

#### EXPRESSION:

- Move to the music, contrasting heavy/light; free/bound
- Echo or read the text with exaggerated expression.

## In Memoriam

- Kara Jo Peters-Krumwiede (sister of Benjamin Krumwiede)
- Bob Schubert (husband of Myra Schubert)
- Cynthia Briscoe (Tulsa)



# TEN COMMANDMENTS OF COMPETITION ETIQUETTE

AS READ BY KING JAMES AND MICHAEL DEAN, CO-VP FOR COMPETITIONS AND AUDITIONS & PAST PRESIDENT

## **Commandment I:**

King James: Verily, let it be known unto all, that above all things, thou shalt at all times comport thyself with due respect and decorum. Forsooth, the most excellent performers in the concert hall are they who doth conduct themselves in a manner befitting professionalism and humility. Yea, those who, in their pride and disrespect, doth walk a crooked path, are not oft invited again to grace the stage with their performance.

Michael Dean: Above all, comport yourself with respect and decorum. The best musicians and concert performers are those who act professionally and with humility. Those who act with arrogance or disrespect are not often asked back to perform again.

## **Commandment II:**

King James: In the realm of musical contests, thou shalt refrain from discussing the affairs of fellow contestants, the melodic offerings they present, or reminiscing about the days of thy youth when thou didst play as a mere child. Speak not of these matters to laborers, fellow disciples, instructors, arbiters, nor even unto the silent walls. Guard these musings within the sanctuary of thy thoughts and divulge them not.

Michael Dean: Don't talk about other contestants, other contestants' repertoire, or when you previously played the repertoire; not to workers, other students, teachers, or judges. Keep these thoughts to yourself.

## **Commandment III:**

King James: Harken, I beseech thee, to the counsel given unto thee: Show due respect unto those who, in their voluntary service, doth labor to ensure the seamless running of the competition, be they the keepers of doors or the marshals guiding the way. Observe, with diligence, the rules they set forth, and let obedience be thy guide in all matters.

Michael Dean: Show respect for those volunteering their time to help the competition run smoothly, such as door monitors and those at the check-in desk, and follow their instructions.

## **Commandment IV:**

King James: I charge thee, with solemnity and gravity, that thou shalt refrain from engaging in discourse with the adjudicator during the competition, even if thou art acquainted with him or her. Let thy silence in their presence be as the unbroken seal upon a sacred covenant, for the integrity of the contest must not be compromised by familiar discourse.

Michael Dean: Do not talk to the judge. Period.

## **Commandment V:**

King James: Thou shalt refrain from casting aspersions upon the tuning, regulation, voicing, tone, or pedal mechanism of the piano. For these instruments have been bestowed freely, and thou shalt receive them with gracious acceptance. If perchance the instrument doth not meet thy favor, yea, even if it be deemed unworthy of thy station, thou art absolved from partaking in the competition. Choose wisely and let not thy critique tarnish the gifts freely given.

Michael Dean: We have been given great instruments to use for our Junior and Senior Competitions, and we are thankful for them. Your critique of them is not necessary. If you truly feel that they do not meet the standards for yourself, your child, or your student, you are free to find competitions more to your liking in the future.

# TEN COMMANDMENTS OF COMPETITION ETIQUETTE

AS READ BY KING JAMES AND MICHAEL DEAN, CO- VP FOR COMPETITIONS AND AUDITIONS & PAST PRESIDENT

(continued from page 5)

## **Commandment VI:**

King James: The arenas chosen for competition are not accessible for the practice thereof in the days leading to the appointed contest. Suppress the inclination to assay the piano ere the event, for professionals accustomed to varied instruments daily exhibit adaptability. As aforementioned, the instruments are of noble quality. Approach on the day of competition, and relish in that which shall harmoniously echo thy musical conceptions.

Michael Dean: Do not go to the competition venues in the days preceding the competition to “try out the piano.” The instruments provided will respond to your musical ideas, and as a pianist it is important to learn how to adjust to a variety of instruments.

## **Commandment VII:**

King James: Thou shalt attend diligently to the passage of time in all matters. Upon the appointed hour, thou shalt present thyself with sufficient time to divest thy coat, rectify the disarray caused by the wind, and attend to the necessities of the chamber. Tarry not excessively within the precincts of the preparation chamber, and let not thy spirit wane if the arbiter curtails the music whilst presenting an extended program. Adapt to the temporal rhythms with patience and forbearance.

Michael Dean: Make sure to arrive on time, so that you can use your allotted time in the warm-up room before performing. Don't worry if the judge needs to cut you off if you have reached your maximum performance time.

## **Commandment VIII:**

King James: The chamber designated for warming up is sanctified for the purpose of warming, and not for the pursuit of further practice. Engage not in protracted exercises therein, for it is a sacred space to ready thyself for the musical odyssey that awaits. Let thy preparations be tempered with the understanding that the warm-up room is consecrated to the gentle kindling of thy musical prowess, not for the ceaseless labor of practice.

Michael Dean: The warm-up room is provided for you simply to get your muscles warm and supple before your performance. It is not for the purpose of practice. Practice should be completed before arriving at the venue. Please honor the time allotment for the warm-up room.

## **Commandment IX:**

King James: Thou shalt employ lawful scores in thy musical endeavors. Entreat not the music emporium to procure for thee illicit scores on the very day of the competition, for it is not their burden to bear. Seek out legal manuscripts in preparation for thy musical pursuits and burden not others with the weight of transgressions.

Michael Dean: Use legal scores. Do not expect the music store to find legal scores for you on the day of the competition.

## **Commandment X:**

King James: Rejoice in mirthful delight, and let gladness be thy companion. Partake in the joyous revelry, and may merriment attend thy endeavors. Find thy pleasure in the jubilation of the moment, and let the spirit of glad-heartedness be thy constant guide.

Michael Dean: Have fun. Have fun. Have fun!

# STATE CONFERENCE 2024

J.P. MURPHY, OMTA PRESIDENT-ELECT



June 7-8, 2024

Catlett Music Center, University of Oklahoma

## **Conference Hotel**

Holiday Inn Express  
2500 Conference Drive  
Norman, OK  
[Hotel Reservations](#)

## **Conference Registration**

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN  
[Click to Register](#)



**Melody Bober**  
*Guest Clinician*  
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*Guest Artist*  
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