

Thomas Labé, Editor



From Your President...

I hope you are all enjoying a relaxing summer of travel, family, and music.

What a great time we all had at the OMTA 80th Annual Conference in Tulsa May 28-30! We were especially honored to have as our guests Celinda Halbauer, MTNA South Central Division President, and Ann Gipson, MTNA President (and former OMTA President!) Congratulations and thanks go to Conference Chair Sandra Meyer, local chairs Sandra Pierce and Judy Macha, and all who volunteered to make this event such a success.

The concluding "Eight-TEA" honoring OMTA Past Presidents was a special end to two days of interesting sessions and performances. I learned so much from the remarks of the past presidents and will share some of them in the next few newsletters. Their record of service to OMTA is a wonderful inspiration to those of us who are following.

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President-Elect Report

The 2009 Conference in Tulsa is now a pleasant memory! Thanks to everyone who came—you can't have a party without people—and especially to the many people behind the scenes who helped in so many ways. We especially appreciate the Tulsa Accredited Music Teachers Association and the Broken Arrow Music Teachers Association, who were heavily involved with local duties. And without the great help from Sandy Pierce and Judy Macha, local co-chairs extraordinaire, and DeAnna and Danny Calhoun, TAMTA president and treasurer, who had numerous vital roles behind the scenes, this conference would not have been the splendid experience it was for all who attended. I appreciate the many of you who have sent evaluations. All feedback is deeply appreciated and will certainly be considered for future conference planning.

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Mark Your Calendar

- State Composition Festival application deadline: August 10, 2009
- Next OMT submissions deadline: September 15, 2009
- Distinguished Teacher of the Year nominations: December 1, 2009

From Your President

(continued from page 1)

From **Phillele McBrayer** we heard that her experiences chairing a conference luncheon and banquet led to the yearly compilation of duties and information passed down to each conference chair. "Guess that got me going, for I also finished the Officers Handbook which **Jim Breckenridge** had started. Then I compiled a Policies and Procedures Manual. I was a first and a last: First president to serve only two years. I'm sure every president since thanks me for the change in the Constitution that the president can serve only one two-year term. Last president to be in charge of the annual conference. During my term the Board voted for the President-elect to be in charge of the conference and I think that has worked out really well. Above all else, what stands out in my memory is the pleasure of working with the members of OMTA. We have a great association and it was a privilege to serve as president."

Eileen Fox reported some remarks from **Auda Marie Thomas**, OMTA President from 1994-1998 (from her hospital bed recovering from hip replacement surgery, 5. 21. 09)

"The legacy of excellence was started by **Dr. Burg**, OMTA's first president from 1929-1934. I had the great privilege to first be his student and then to serve on the OMTA Board with him. No matter what new ideas we have had, excellence is always the hallmark or standard because Clarence Burg was 100% dedicated to his music.

"OMTA Presidents never gave only half way, you always gave 100%. That's why Oklahoma is so strong nationally. And we

have a national president!

Jim Breckenridge and Dr. Burg were very good friends. They always had to watch the Miss America Pageant (when there used to be a fall board meeting). **Celia Mae (Bryant)** would get so irritated at that—she would turn the TV down and then turn it back up when the results were announced. Dr. Burg, as well as Jim, also believed that music was for everyone—and for every type of teacher. It is really nice that the first president of OMTA and the last to leave us both were so much involved in musical excellence and in the auditions, making everything go so smoothly with OMTA on all fronts."

Some of **Robert McFadden's** remarks included: "I have served continuously on the Board since at least 1992. Began as SE dist. rep., then later as Durant Area President. I have been the only one in recent history who has gone up the ladder from the bottom up, and the entire structure has changed now! I was VP for Collegiate Chapters and Local Assn's, then VP for Membership and Certification, then President-Elect, President, and now Immediate Past Pres. Wrote a column for the OMT 8 years continuously.

When I began attending board meetings, they were held in the home of A.M. Thomas. She was a wonderful cook. Sometimes there were drawings for door prizes. When Phillele became president, we met at the Santa Fe Inn on the Broadway Extension.

I've heard stories about board meetings in Celia Mae Bryant's kitchen for dessert.

Somewhere along the line we changed to only 2 board meetings a year; when I first began there was always an August meeting as well.

When **Ron Lewis** was president we began adding the expiration dates for state certification. The first summer of his presidency, I hauled all the membership files to Ada and he took them home (to Shawnee) and worked on those dates! That's when it became a Membership Handbook.

When I was Membership and Certification, we rented a U-Haul and drove to Tulsa to get them from Ed West. Two years later, Ed and Sandy Pierce, drove to Durant to pick up the same filing cabinets! I encouraged state members who are not NCTMs to consider national certification.

I recall at state conference in Tulsa (2004) there was a special reception for the 40-, 50- and 60-year members. One of the honorees was Grace Barry from Tulsa. She asked to play an original composition. She played "Tango, Though Your Heart is Broken." It was a rare moment seeing/hearing this octogenarian play that number."

Attention all OMTA Members! This edition of the OMT contains important information concerning **membership issues, theory tests** (the addition of Levels 1 and 2), and **auditions guidelines**. Membership VP Terri Hlubek, Audition Chair Gloria Johnson, and Theory Chair Nancy Shelton and their committees have been very active and will discuss each item in their OMT articles.

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.



Bylaws Addition Approved by the Membership

The following addition to the bylaws has been approved and will be added to the handbook:

Article 1- Membership—A member who has not renewed certification by June 30 of the 5th year will become an Associate Member.

DISTINGUISHED TEACHER AWARD

Deadline: December 1, 2009

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: Robert McFadden, NCTM, 732 Westwood Drive, Durant, OK 74701

Word attachments may be sent via email to: rmcfadden@se.edu

For questions, contact rmcfadden@se.edu or call: 580-745-2194

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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: _____

From The President Elect

(continued from page 1)

2010 Conference at East Central University, Ada is just in the planning stages.

But we have the dates and one outstanding clinician already confirmed, so please add to your planning calendar **June 4-5, 2010 with committee and board meetings June 3.**

Reasons to come:

- **Brand-new music building and facilities at ECU**
- **Nationally-known clinician Ingrid Clarfield, piano pedagogy faculty at**

Westminster Choir College. Learn more about Ingrid at <http://www.ingridclarfield.com/home.asp>

- **Return of IMTF and CFF sessions**

More details of will follow!

Please take note of my new email especially for OMTA correspondence:

sgmeveromta@gmail.com

And, last, on a personal note:

Thank you, OMTA, for the beautiful anthurium plant sent to me recently in memory of my stepmother's passing. I appreci-

ate the notes and expressions of sympathy I have received from a number of you. Mother was 91 years old and passed away the day after I returned from the MTNA national confer-

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.



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OSU Announces Winners of 2009 High School Piano Competition

OSU has named the winners of the 2009 OSU High School Piano Competition which took place on Saturday, February 14, 2009 in OSU's Serentean Center Concert Hill in Stillwater.

First place: William Chamberlin of Bixby, student of Eva Ginevich

Second place: Sarah Klein of Tulsa, student of Amy Cottingham

Third place: Julia Hall of Rowlett, Texas, student of Barbara Taeger

Honorable mention: Jessica Meiki of Yukon, student of Margo Jones

Honorable mention: Robbie Ann Miller of Gainesville, Texas, student of Dr. Richard Shuster

OMTA State Composition Festival Entry Rules and Application Form

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 (also posted on-line at www.okmta.org). Entries will be judged, critiqued and returned to the student as soon as possible, no later than August 20. This should allow students time to improve their compositions and resubmit for the MTNA competition due around Sept. 13*. MTNA applications must be filed 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 by the designated chir by August 4, 2009**. A student may enter more than one work per level but must pay an additional fee.

Teacher qualifications: Teachers must meet the requirements of all other OMTA Auditions and hold provisional or full certification, with dues paid by July 1.

Awards: First, second and third 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.

The first place winners will be invited to perform on their district conference in early November. At that time they will receive their honorarium, intended for reimbursement of the MTNA entry fee: **(Elementary: \$50 Jr. High: \$70 Sr. High: \$100)**.

RULES

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 composer or teacher should be written on the score.** Identification will be made by entrant 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 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.

Compositions and recordings will only be returned if a self-addressed and stamped envelope is included with the entry.

OMTA State Composition Festival Entry Form

Send, postmarked by August 10, 2009, to:

Mary Sallee, Festival Chair, 2721 Tropicana Ave., Norman, OK 7307-1709 (405)-447-1370

Category: Elem. _____ **Junior** _____ **Senior** _____

(Ages as of January 1, 2009: Elem. 5-10 yrs.; Junior 11-14 yrs.; Senior 15-18 yrs.)

Name _____ Birth date _____ Age as of 1/1/09 _____

Address _____

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

Phone _____ - _____ - _____ Cell _____ email _____

Note: In order to receive notification, teacher must include email address or a SASE.

Teacher _____ Phone _____ - _____ - _____ email: _____

Address _____

Composition _____ Timing _____ (10 min. limit)

Performers with description of instrument: _____

If selected as a winner in my level, I agree to enter my winning composition (including alterations or additions) in the MTNA Composition Competition whose deadline for submission is 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 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.

Membership News

2009 BURG AWARD RECIPIENTS

STUDENT	TEACHER
Colene Reeves	Lorelei Barton
Eli Coleman Bland	Debbie Brown
John Harrison	Debbie Brown
Ashley Pallett	DeAnna Calhoun
Jordan O'Hara	Rita Carley
Collin Torbett	Dann Childers
Catie Combes	Rebecca Clary
P.J. Nguyen	Jeanette Couch
Cori Carpenter	Jan Culver
Sangeetha Komanduri	Thora duBois
Elizabeth Pascual	Theresa Finck
Samantha Bachman	Dianna Franchini
William Chamberlin	Eva Gingrich
Melissa Truong	Kathleen Gray
Taylor Campney	Wendy Green
Anna Clark	Valerie Haynes
Neill Plemons	Valerie Haynes
Mike Turner	Mary Ann Head
Deanna Smalley	Kathryn Hickman

2009 REPERTOIRE AWARD RECIPIENTS

Ashley Pallett	DeAnna Calhoun
Sangeetha Komanduri	Thora duBois
Cody Carson	Terri Hlubek
Leanna Miller	Terri Hlubek
Lynneth Miller	Terri Hlubek
Branden McCready	Cladette Hudleston
Roland Brown	Gloria Johnson
Drew Burkhart	Janet Kirby
Amrith Ramkumar	Judith Reeves
Miranda Shaughnessy	Judith Reeves
Savannah Faught	Nancy Shelton
Melanie Grooms	Nancy Shelton
Mallory McElroy	Nancy Shelton
Lydia Wilson	Nancy Shelton
Eric Brown	Carolyn Stauffer
Chris Allison	Kathleen Wimberley
Ben Koch	Kathleen Wimberley
Carl Schwager	Kathleen Wimberley

2009 CLAUDIA BUSSE THEORY AWARDS

Ashley Pallett	Deanna Calhoun
P.J. Nguyen	Jeanette Couch
Christian Pearson	Jan Culver
Sangeetha Komanduri	Thora duBois
William Chamberlin	Eva Ginevich
Melissa Truong	Kathleen Gray
Emily Adelson	Karen Harrington
Lynneth Miller	Terri Hlubek
Rachel Kelch	Terri Hlubek
Mary Corley	Terri Hlubek
Karen Weldon	Cynthia Jarboe
Roland Brown	Gloria Johnson
Christopher Akers	Judy Johnson
Hannah Wheeler	Denise Parr
Nick Beale	Denise Parr
Amelia Ward	Pearl Peveler
Erin McGarry	Myra Schubert
Melanie Grooms	Nancy Shelton
Chelsea Burris	Carolyn Stauffer
Carl Schwager	Kathleen Wimberley

The Theory Committee has been working for several years on revising the theory tests. The Board passed their recommendations this year. Be sure to study the **new guidelines** very carefully. **The first major change is the addition of Level 1 and Level 2. The interval and scale/key signature requirements have been altered. There are a few new terms, and several have been moved to different levels.** The flute guidelines will remain the same. String guidelines will also add Level 1 and 2. Check the website for the new guidelines. **Note: Level 1 is also for the first year student, not necessarily a first grader.**

One group of people I failed to thank when I received the Distinguished Teacher Award were all of you teachers. You all have been excellent to work with through the years, and so helpful and patient. Thank you for your friendship. I am really proud to be a part of OMTA.

~ Nancy Shelton

CERTIFICATION NEWS

Address Change/ Corrections:

Rose Ratcliffe
1198 Sycamore Street
Weatherford, OK 73096

Cindy Pullin pullinpiano@mac.com

Emeritus:

Mary Lou Adams
Kathryn Brod
Rita Foster
Judy Gorton
Sue Halpain
Pat James
Jenarold Jones
Luella Lingenfelter
Pearl Peveler
Janell Whitby

New Provisional Members:

Patty Ann Tate Flute
327 University Blvd.
Enid, OK 73701

New College Faculty: Voice

Christian Morren
1609 Pembroke
Norman, Oklahoma 73072

New State Certified Members:

Nedda Jane Horvath Piano
2110 S. 70th St.
Muskogee, OK 74403-6945

Robin McCaskey Hughes Piano, Organ, Voice
1205 Olde Bridge Road
Edmond, Oklahoma 73034

Shelley Levisay Piano
1207 Castle Creek
Shawnee, OK 74804

Jo Dee Tinkel (New in Piano)
16318 E. Fourth Place
Tulsa, OK 74108

Jeremy Titsworth Piano
4121 S. Van Buren #804
Enid, Oklahoma 73703

Renewals:

Donavon Calvert Piano and Theory
4832 Lisa Lane
Del City, OK 73115-3930

Claudia Carroll CF Piano
2216 NW 46th Street
OKC, OK 73112

Susan Duell Piano, Theory, History
1408 Wisteria
Duncan, OK 73533

Jeongwon Ham CF Piano
University of Oklahoma
500 West Boyd Norman, Oklahoma 73019

Paula Hutton Piano, CF
1317 Harding Ave.
Edmond, OK 73013

Jennifer Jennings Piano
16313 Stephanie Court
Edmond, OK 73013

Jenarold Jones Piano
2301 Flowered Meadows Way
Edmond, OK 73012-0643

Mandy Kniskern Piano
12312 SW Ninth Street
Yukon, OK 73099

Thomas Labé CF Piano
4 Wall Mountain Trail
Lawton, OK 73501

Joleen Lewis Piano
30 Pam Dr.
Shawnee, OK 74804

Susan Loomis Violin and Viola
5743 E. 24th St.
Tulsa, OK 74114

Kristina Roberts Piano
P.O. Box 1482
Guymon, OK 73942

Teresa Russell Roberts Piano
3746 East 83rd Street
Tulsa, OK 74137

Joy Shrader Piano
25823 Lariat Circle
Broken Arrow, OK 74014

Lesla Steele Piano
1345 Evergreen Dr.
Bartlesville, Oklahoma 74006

Kathy Wilson Piano
1440 E 36th Pl
Tulsa, OK 74205

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! All members need to check last year's directory and send any email or other address/phone changes to me or to Sylvia Ryan. We would like to correct these in the new directory, which will be published at the end of the summer. 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
- 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

Independent Music Teachers Forum

During 2008-09, MTNA Independent Music Teachers Chair Lezlee Bishop asked all state chairs to survey members about the top issues facing independent music teachers. All Oklahoma teachers were sent this survey through email in March to indicate the top issues facing independent music teachers. Thanks to all 45 Oklahoma teachers who responded. The national figures will be reported in a magazine article later this year, but I thought it would be interesting for you to know what Oklahoma teachers indicated to be their top five issues. Preliminary tallies at the national conference indicated that our top issues are shared by the rest of the country. The following table is a tally of the Oklahoma responses. I hope this information might prove useful in planning future workshops or programs at our local and state level. Top Issues Facing Oklahoma Teachers (N=45, indicating their top 5 issues).

ISSUE	N	%
Teaching children who are over scheduled in today's society	36	80%
Being connected to other teachers	25	56%
Respect in my community for what I teach and what I know and do	22	49%
Making a living at teaching and setting my fees accordingly	21	47%
Positive communication with parents and students	20	44%
Continue my own instrumental study	20	44%
Developing effective studio policies and following through on them	17	38%
Taxes, records, deductible expenses	13	29%
Continuing education	12	27%
Being an advocate for music in my community	11	24%
Financial planning for retirement and life and health insurance	10	22%
Working with public school music educators	7	16%
Marketing myself as a music teacher	5	11%
Having access to online resources and education for parents of music students	5	11%
Finishing a music degree certification	2	4%

Dr. Kathy Thompson, NCTM, VP for Membership & Certification,

is Associate Professor of Music at Oklahoma Christian University where she teaches piano, pedagogy, theory, and string ensemble. She studied music at UT Austin, Abilene Christian University and OU. She is past-president of COMTA. She enjoys performing piano duets with Paula Hutton and playing viola with the Oklahoma Community Orchestra.



