



Con Brio

Oregon Music Teachers'
Association, Inc.
Eugene District

Affiliated with the Music Teachers' National Association, Inc.

Opus 225

November 2011

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November Meeting & Program

We look forward to our district meeting on Monday, November 14th when Claire Wachter, will give us a presentation on "Applying Learning Theory to Piano Teaching". Claire is a Eugene District OMTA member and head of the Piano Pedagogy department at the University of Oregon. The meeting will be at Emerald Bible Fellowship, 1855 Cal Young Rd, Eugene. It will begin at 9:00 a.m. with refreshments and social time, then our business meeting followed by Claire's presentation.

December Meeting: Potluck & Music

Eugene District Holiday Potluck and Music! Carolyn and Jim McHan have again invited us to their lovely home for our annual district holiday potluck. We hope that all our members and their spouses can join us for a festive evening of food and entertainment on Monday, December 12, at 7 PM.

We can also look forward to special entertainment provided by Genevieve Mason, piano and Katherine Price, voice.

Delores Tiklin

District Vice President/Program Chair

Announcing
OMTA Composition Workshops
Saturday, January 14, 2012
Eugene Piano Academy

Session 1: 10-11:30

Session 2: 1-2:30

These workshops are designed for students age 6-10 who wish to use musical tools they are learning in piano lessons in a creative way. Through experimentation and improvisation with rhythms, students will compose melodies and discover simple ways to harmonize them. We will provide guidance in notation so that each student can come away with their own short composition.

Workshops will be lead by Susane Reis and Ellen McQuilkin. Cost is \$10.00 per session. Enrollment forms will be available on the web in December 2011. For more information, contact Susane or Ellen

Refreshments provided!

Eugene District Ensemble Festival Report:

The Eugene District Ensemble Festival took place at 1:00 on Sunday, October 16 at the University of Oregon, School of Music, room 178. We had a total of 36 students participate (22 teams) and 9 teacher's studios represented. The students did fantastic and presented beautiful piano duets and trios. Our adjudicator for the day was Michael Seregow, a U of O graduate piano student.

Congratulations to the following students and their teachers for being chosen to perform at the State Ensemble Festival, Saturday, Nov. 5 and Sunday, Nov. 6 at the Russell Tripp Performance Center, Takena Hall, Linn Benton Community College, Albany, Oregon.

K-5th Grade:

1st place: Sadie van Rossem & Teresa Padilla Amador – students of Mary Ellen Yost

6th-8th Grade:

1st place: Peter Shen & Derek Wang – students of Lucy Clevenger

2nd place: Tiffany Huang & Anna Laptova – students of Lucy Clevenger

Alternate: Corina MacWilliams & Wesley Georgiev – students of Christine Mirabella

9th-12th Grade:

1st place: Ellwood Zwovic & Hannah Larson – students of Winnie Kerner

2nd place: Sydney Meadowcroft & Madeleine Everett – students of Carolyn McHan

Alternate: Grant Crider-Phillips, Lauren Esrig & Zachary Esrig – students of Delores Tiktin

The State Ensemble Festival Chair, Joan Gathercoal, invited all winners, including alternates, to perform at the state event this year.

We are very grateful to the U of O School of Music for providing the room and piano for free for this event. Special thanks to Crystal Zimmerman, U of O liason, for not only getting the room for free, but also for setting up the room the night before and making sure we had everything we needed for the day. You're awesome! Also, thanks to Soria Phillips-Meadow for helping check in music and students, Janie Kaminski for the beautiful flowers and banner, and Dr. Dossin for helping me carry that huge concert duet bench from the pedagogy office.

I appreciate all the teachers for preparing their students to make this event a success. Remember to plan early for next year and start duets and ensemble teams early in the spring or summer. It is a great skill for students to learn to play ensembles with each other and although it may take extra rehearsal time, they gain so much from the experience.

Sincerely Submitted,

Sandy Hull, NCTM
Chair

*Fourteen teachers bring beautiful music
to this year's Festival of Popular Music*

On Sunday, October 30th, 54 students participated in the 2011 Festival of Popular Music held at the United Lutheran Church from 1:00-4:00. Pieces ranged from favorites like "The Pink Panther" to Debussy's lively "Le Petit Negre." A highlight of this year's Festival was a performance of one of Neil Patton's compositions entitled "Toccatà." Courtney Cannell performed this very beautiful and difficult piece with enthusiasm and musicality.

I want to thank all of the teachers who entered their students so early in the season and made the Festival a success. I'd like to give special thanks to Nobuko LeBeau, Sandy Hull, and Carol White for helping check in students, which made the programs run smoothly. Finally, I'd like to thank Carolyn McHan for all her support along the way.

Looking ahead to next year's Festival, I plan to include more students per recital for more full programs, which always creates an exciting atmosphere in the hall. In addition recitals will begin at 2:00 to allow more time for church activities to conclude. Finally, after considering the possibility of allowing students to wear Halloween costumes during the Festival, I have decided against it due to the complexity of guidelines and wide variety of beliefs held about Halloween. I want to ensure that our recitals are well received by all of our families.

Please feel free to contact me with any input or questions you might have. As several teachers have noted, the key to success with such early recitals is to begin the repertoire in the Spring. I am pleased that each year we continue to expand the level of participation after dipping several years ago.

Thank you for a great 2011 Festival! What a fabulous group and event to be a part of.

Sincerely,

Soria Phillips-Meadow

Festival of Popular Music Chair

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The deadline for submitting articles and announcements for the December 2011 issue of Con Brio is Saturday, December 3, 2011.

Send your news and announcements to district members between regular issues of Con Brio!

Simply submit the news item or announcement as usual, indicating you would like it sent immediately. It will be formatted and sent via email to all members.

Con Brio

November 2011

Con Brio is the newsletter of the Eugene Chapter of OMTA, published and distributed monthly, except July and August.

President: Carolyn McHan, Vice-President: Delores Tiktin, Treasurer: Wyatt Burger,
Corresponding Sec: David Cragun, Recording Sec: Neil Patton, Past President: Claire Wachter
Con Brio founder and first publisher: Lea Mirabella

All materials for publication are due on the Saturday preceding the first Monday of each month .
Con Brio is posted on the Eugene District website on the Wednesday prior to the monthly meeting.

Neil Patton, editor