



# Con Brio

Oregon Music Teachers'  
Association, Inc.  
Eugene District

Affiliated with the Music Teachers' National Association, Inc.

Opus 247

January 2014

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## *President's Corner*

Many thanks to **Virginia Buhn** for hosting another great December holiday potluck. We heard lovely music performed by **Genevieve Mason, Sandy Hull, Soria Phillips-Meadow** and her two daughters. **Jane Young** and I also played duets.

Thanks to **David Cragun** for all his work as chair of the **Barnes and Noble** event. At our December business meeting we discussed this year's event. The teachers who were able to attend the play-a-thon with their students appreciated that it was not canceled because of the weather. We decided that if an event is canceled or in a situation like this year's Barnes and Noble Play-a-thon, all the students will receive trophy points even if they could not perform. It was also voted upon that a canceled student event will not be rescheduled.

The recommended **district dues increase** from \$23 to \$25 for the general membership and from \$10 to \$15 for seniors (65 and above) was voted upon and approved. The new dues will be effective July 1, 2014.

We will have a presentation by **Gary Ruppert** (from Salem district) entitled "**Your Pathway to Jazz Piano**" at our next meeting on **Monday, January 13th** at the **Eugene Piano Academy**, 507 Willamette Street. Thanks to **Susane Reis** for the use of her facilities. A social and refreshment time will begin at 9:00 am, a business meeting at 9:20, and a two hour presentation from 9:45 to 11:45.

Best wishes to all for a happy, healthy new year!

*Delores Tiktin*



### ***Romantic, Impressionistic and Contemporary Festival***

Sunday, February 9, 2014

University of Oregon, Rm 163

Fee: \$10 per student

Use the Student Entry Form and Recital Master list.

I hope all teachers are preparing students for this wonderful festival. It will be an amazing afternoon of recitals with repertoire showcasing these three periods of music. This festival offers a wonderful opportunity for students to perform and receive written comments. Our adjudicators are looking forward to hearing our students! I encourage all our teachers to enter students in this festival and I am so looking forward to the students performances!

Please email me if you have any questions.

Musically,

*Carol White*, NCTM

Piano Studio

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### ***OMTA Composition Festival***

*Deadline for composition entries is **Friday, March 14, 2014!***

The OMTA Composition Celebration is a statewide event that provides an opportunity for students to perform and receive feedback on original compositions. At the District level, students submit their notated scores along with the application and entry fee by Friday, March 14, 2014. Students will receive a written evaluation from the adjudicator (TBA) prior to performing their pieces in public.

Approximately 25-30% of entrants will advance to the state event to be held in May. See the complete description of the event on our website.

Feel free to contact me with any questions regarding this festival!

*Ellen McQuilkin*

[ellenmcquilkin@gmail.com](mailto:ellenmcquilkin@gmail.com)

*Composition Festival Chair*

### *Forrest Kinney Intensives, March 8-9*

"By learning to improvise, arrange, and compose with chords, you will find it much easier to memorize classical pieces... You will also find that music theory becomes a rich, lively subject when it becomes the exploration of musical patterns to be used for creative adventures."

*[Excerpt from "Pattern Play - Harmony," by Forrest Kinney]*

After a very motivational presentation by Forrest Kinney at our October meeting, Delores Tiktin and I arranged with Forrest to return on March 8-9 for a more in-depth experience of his methods. The maximum class size is 10 each day to insure a lot of individual attention. We are well on our way to filling the Pattern Play day. We could use a few more of you in Chord Play. I am excited about taking Chord Play, especially to help me with students who want to play popular music for which the available arrangements aren't very good.

Here's the schedule:

March 8th: **Pattern Play** (Improvisation) - introduces working with lego-type musical patterns to improvise with students; includes how to move students from a duet to a solo experience, and how to teach trios and group classes

March 9th: **Chord Play** (Arranging) - presents a clear way to understand and artfully make arrangements with triads, 7th, 9th and 13th chords; make arrangements of familiar melodies in various musical styles; experience the three main techniques of arranging (styling, coloring, and substituting)

9:30 am - 5:30 pm, \$75 per day

Who can participate? Forrest writes:

"The **Pattern Play** Intensives are geared toward piano teachers who want to expand their abilities both as players and teachers. High-school piano students who plan to teach are also encouraged to come."

"The **Chord Play** Intensives are open to teachers and piano students (teenage and above) who at least are knowledgeable about triads."

Perhaps you have an older student who would be interested in Chord Play. One of my adult students might attend if we don't fill up with piano teachers first. This is not restricted to OMTA teachers or students, in case you know anyone else who might be interested - church musicians, etc.

Aaron Bloom, who coordinated last summer's workshops in Portland and also worked on the Syllabus Manual revision, says this about Forrest Kinney: "No single person has effected my teaching more than Forrest since I've been a piano teacher."

Please let me know right away if you or someone you know might be interested in attending. Also, if you could contribute toward sponsoring another teacher to attend, please let me know that as well - it could make the difference for a couple of our teachers.

Thank you,  
Jane Young  
541-744-1211  
[pianogal@efn.org](mailto:pianogal@efn.org)

### *Recital Dress Code*

Students and families should learn both correct recital behavior and appearance as part of a well-rounded musical education. Appropriate dress shows respect for both the music and the audience. Teachers should review and strongly encourage the following dress code guidelines with their students and parents before every recital.

Clothing and shoes should be clean, neat and appropriate for the special occasion of a recital. Boys should wear a dress shirt, dress slacks and nice shoes. (A white shirt and black or tan pants will always look nice.) If only jeans are available to the student, they should be dark and new in appearance. Baggy pants and those that reveal underwear are not acceptable. Avoid tennis shoes and baseball caps.

Girls should wear a dress, skirt or dress slacks. Although short skirts may be in fashion, they are not appropriate for playing piano in a public performance. It is recommended that skirts and/or dresses should be knee-length when seated and without side slits. Tops should cover the midriff completely. Sheer or revealing garments are not appropriate. Dress shoes are preferred for recitals. Flip-flops, sandals and similar casual styles are not appropriate. Jewelry that interferes or distracts should not be worn.

### **The deadline for submitting articles and announcements for the February 2014 issue of Con Brio is Sunday, Jan 26, 2014.**

**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*

**January 2014**

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

President: Delores Tiktin, Vice-President: Genevieve Mason, Treasurer: Wyatt Burger,  
Corresponding Sec: Janie Kaminski, Recording Sec: David Cragun, Past President: Carolyn McHann

Con Brio founder and first publisher: Lea Mirabella

All materials for publication are due on the fourth Saturday of each month .

Con Brio is posted on the Eugene District website on the Wednesday prior to the monthly meeting.

**Neil Patton, editor**