



Affiliated with the Music Teachers' National Association, Inc.

Opus 266

December 2015

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## Editor's [Half] Notes

Dear Teachers and Colleagues,

Happiest of Holidays to all of you, my friends, colleagues, and mentors! We have indeed reached the symbolic halfway mark for the school year, and it's time for a break. I loved the whoops and hollers of joy when that one bored fifth grade student heard me play The Ukrainian Bell Carol for him and then ask if he wanted to play it. I hadn't seen him practice that hard in months. I'd forgotten how much their joy brings me joy. More please.

Be encouraged. Love your students well. Keep making music together!

Sincerely

*Neil Patton*

Con Brio Editor

## December Meeting

On Monday December 14, we will meet at Virginia Buhn's house, for our annual holiday party with playing members! The address is 2100 Ridgeway Dr, Eugene OR 97401. Directions are available on the Eugene OMTA website. We will meet at 9:00. It is a potluck, so you are welcome to bring your favorite dishes to share! I think we will have a short business meeting, and then everybody can chat or play! At this point, we have six musicians who will play background music, and two who will perform. So, there is room for more music. Think about playing!

See you this next Monday!

## Con Brio

December 2015

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

President: David Cragun, Vice-President: Genevieve Mason, Treasurer: Wyatt Burger,  
Corresponding Sec: Fern McArthur, Recording Sec: Neil Patton, Past President: Delores Tiktin

Con Brio founder and first publisher: Lea Mirabella

All materials for publication are due on the last Sunday of each month.

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

Neil Patton, editor

## Treasurer's Report

11/01/2015 to 12/01/2015

### CHECKING ACCOUNT

DATE	DESCRIPTION	INCOME	EXPENSE	BALANCE
11/01/15	BEGINNING BALANCE			3,919.25
11/10/15	PEAK Internet		14.97	
11/17/15	Membership Dues	100.00		
11/23/15	Ensemble Festival - student fees	250.00		
11/23/15	Ensemble Festival - student fees (State)	72.00		
11/23/15	OMTA - Ensemble Festival - student fees		72.00	
11/27/15	Ensemble Festival expenses		29.31	
11/27/15	Crystal Zimmerman - Ensemble Festival adjudicator		98.55	
12/01/15	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 422.00</b>	<b>\$ 214.83</b>	<b>\$ 4,126.42</b>

Respectfully submitted,

*Wyatt L. Burger*

OMTA Eugene District Treasurer



### Alejandro Cremaschi in Corvallis

Argentine pianist Alejandro Cremaschi will be presenting a master class, a children's concert, and a recital featuring classical music of Latin America and Spain, on March 12 and 13, 2016 in Corvallis. For more information about these events, please visit this link:

[www.corvallispiano.org/calendar](http://www.corvallispiano.org/calendar)

Dr. Cremaschi was a well-received presenter in the 2013 OMTA State Conference. He is a respected performer and clinician, and teaches piano and piano pedagogy at the University of Colorado at Boulder.

### Ensemble Festival

On Sunday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, eight teachers and twenty-eight students participated in the Eugene District Ensemble Festival. Dr. Crystal Zimmerman adjudicated the recital and took care in giving each group encouraging yet constructive feedback. The following groups were chosen to move on to the State Ensemble Festival:

Winners:

K-5 Division: Ellie Cho & Timmy Cho, students of Lucy Clevenger

6-8 Division: Amelie Phillips-Meadow, Logan Griffin, Owen McCoy, Mary McCoy, Sophie Phillips-Meadow (string quintet), students of Soriah Phillips-Meadow

9-12 Division: Cameron Vanderpool & Kyle Jensen, students of Susane Davis

Alternates:

K-5 Division: Ishika Chkraborty and Summer Yin, students of Lucy Clevenger

6-8 Division: Kate Vu and Kendrick Lee, students of Lucy Clevenger

9-12 Division: Tiffany Huang and Anna Laptova, Students of Lucy Clevenger

Honorable Mention:

Maddie White & Katie Culp, students of Mary Ellen Yost

Nathaniel Mason & Max Garger, students of Genvieve Mason

The University of Oregon was kind enough to let us use their space and pianos at no charge. This was helpful in making the recital profitable for our district this year. A big "Thank You!" to Lucy Clevenger for greeting families and organizing the music for the adjudicator, and to all of the participating instructors for their help in organizing the program.

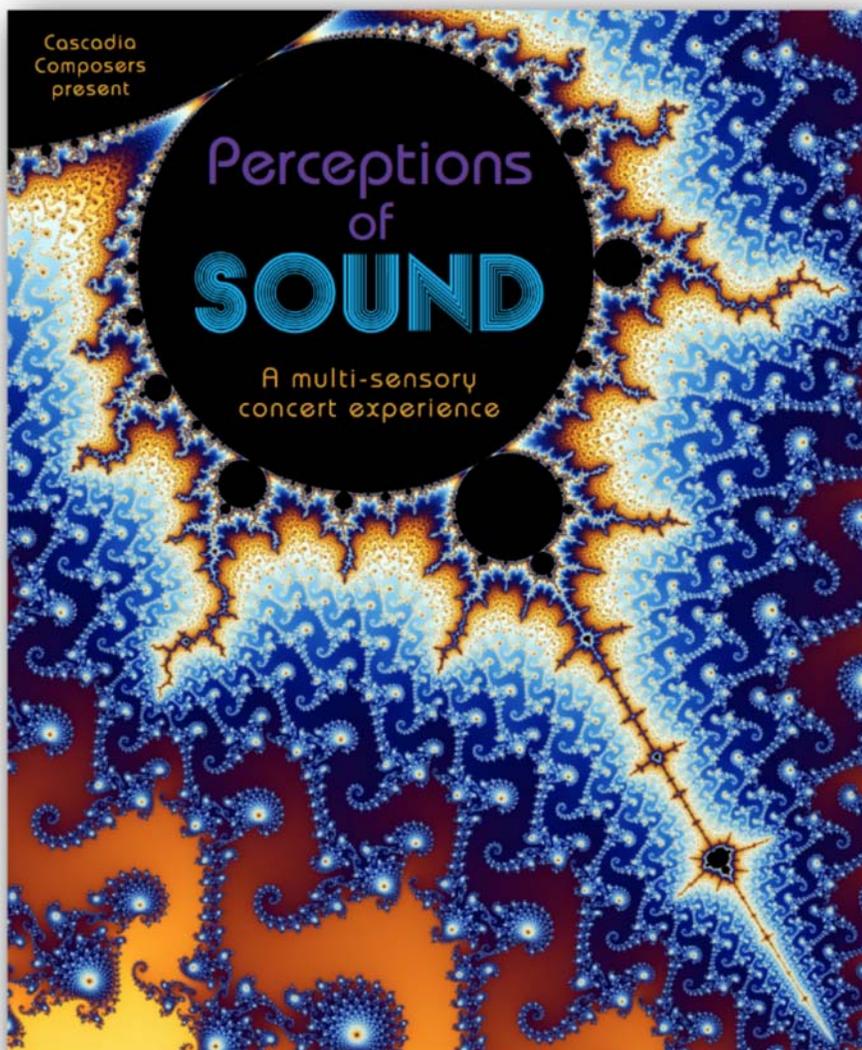
Sincerely,

*Susane Davis*

The deadline for submitting articles and announcements for the January 2015 issue of Con Brio is Sunday, December 27, 2015.

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.

Cascadia Composers proudly presents:  
 "Perceptions of Sound", a Cascadia and Friends production  
 Saturday, January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 7:30 p.m.  
 Tickets available at the door: \$20 general admission  
 \$10 seniors and working artists and \$5 students  
 First Christian Church  
 1166 Oak St. Eugene, Oregon 97401



Cascadia Composers present

**Perceptions  
of  
SOUND**

A multi-sensory  
concert experience

**SCIENCE, SYNESTHESIA & SPECIAL EFFECTS:**  
 melding new art music with modern performance to expand the experience of sound

*Works by Susan Alexander · Daniel Brugh · Ted Clifford · Lisa Ann Marsh · Paul Safar  
 Alexander Schwarzkopf · Brandon Stewart · Jeff Winslow · Jennifer Wright · Nicholas Vandell  
 special guests Delgani String Quartet & John Berendzen's Robohorn*

**7:30 PM SATURDAY JAN. 30, 2016**

First Christian Church  
 1166 Oak St., Eugene, OR 97401

Cascadia Composers  
a chapter of the National Association of Composers USA

CascadiaComposers.org Tickets \$5 - \$20 at the door

This concert, which will feature Eugene OMTA members Alexander Schwarzkof and Paul Safar, as well as Portland OMTA member Daniel Brugh, will challenge the ears with a variety of works that take advantage of the unique acoustic properties of the First Christian Church's parabolic dome. Many pieces will be presented in low lighting for the listener to immerse themselves in sound, sometimes from various corners of the space. Dance, video, electro acoustic and other multimedia collaborative works will be on the program. The program will showcase pianist Alexander Schwarzkof, soprano Nancy Wood and percussionist Todd Bills among many Eugene musicians. Composers represented include Eugene's Paul Safar and Portland's Daniel Brugh, Jeff Winslow and Lisa March. Jennifer Wright will electrify us with amplified harpsichord and John Berendzen will usher in the concert with his one of a kind instrument "the Robohorn".

Get ready for this new genre bending multi media experience set in the unique space of First Christian Church in Eugene.

CASCADIA COMPOSERS is a non-profit membership chapter of NACUSA (National Association of Composers USA) based in Portland Oregon and dedicated to the promotion and support of regional composers. Cascadia has produced concerts, workshops, and presentations promoting new classical music by Northwest composers for eight years.

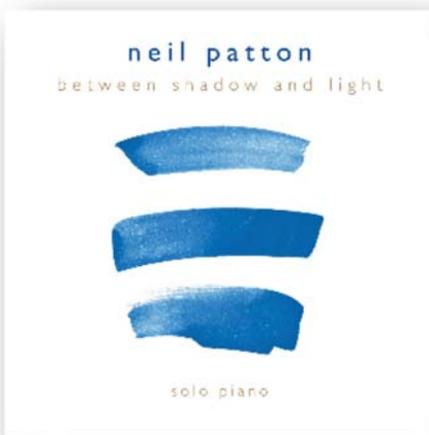
## Reach the World Right Where You Are – Become a Host Family!

- What:** Hosting Chinese middle/high school students participating in the 2016 Winter University of Oregon Music/English Camps
- When:** January 24-30, 2016
- Note:** The host family provides transportation, breakfast and dinner on weekdays; 3 meals a day on the weekend and occasional sack lunches. Students may share a room but must have their own bed. Host families are strongly encouraged to take 2 students.
- Stipend\*:** \$110/person for 6 nights or \$220 for 2 people



\* Stipend should cover expenses for meals, transportation, laundry and all activities. The number of days may vary slightly due to travel arrangements; stipend will be prorated accordingly.

- Website:** <http://www.gpyinternational.org/hostfamily.html>
- Contact:** 541.517.5915 [luannlangford@gpyinternational.org](mailto:luannlangford@gpyinternational.org)



### New CD Release from Neil Patton

Eugene Member, Neil Patton, has released his third collection of original contemporary solo piano music. These thirteen pieces are composed around the theme of healing, and finding hope in the midst of suffering.

This, as well as Neil's other releases and sheet music, are available at [www.NeilPatton.net](http://www.NeilPatton.net).

#### REVIEWS:

"There are a lot of really good pianists on the contemporary piano scene, but only a few are breathtaking, and Neil Patton is one of those. With impeccable technique, lightning-fast fingers, and amazing control of the piano, Patton also brings that intangible magic and passion to his

compositions and playing that set him apart from most. From thundering and energetic to the most delicate and tender moments, Patton knows what he wants to say with his music, and does so with clarity and precision, but also with a ton of heart ... I sometimes refer to Neil Patton as a "local treasure," and *Between Shadow and Light* proves it. It is nothing short of a masterpiece, and I can only hope it receives the recognition it deserves ... quite possibly my choice as ALBUM OF THE YEAR."

Kathy Parsons, [MainlyPiano.com](http://MainlyPiano.com)

"The album's sound quality is simply stunning as every note played and every nuance that Neil included in his playing was captured with perfect resolution which only adds to the overall beauty of this project. It is apparent that Neil spends the time needed to tweak and to mold his music so that it captures his emotional intent for each of the compositions and clearly shares that with his listeners. *Between Shadow and Light* is an inspiring and uplifting album that truly shows what is possible on a solo piano release if the person behind the keyboards is dedicated and passionate in what he is doing."

Michael Foster, [AmbientVisions.com](http://AmbientVisions.com)