



Affiliated with the Music Teachers' National Association, Inc.

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Editor's [Half] Notes

The old, tattered book sits on the floor near my right foot as I teach every day, leaning against the leg of my old upright. I pull it out at least once a week to check for a definition or the translation for some obscure Italian tempo mark. The New Harvard Dictionary of Music, given to me by my own teacher, Dorothy Munz when I graduated from high school back in 1990.

Every time I open it, I notice the place where she wrote a note inside the front cover, thanking me for our time together studying music and sending me off to my college music studies and to the adventures beyond.

It's graduation season again, and I have one senior graduating this year. He is phenomenally gifted, and is heading to Southern California to pursue a degree in music composition. He came to me four years ago, self-taught and hungry for more. He leaves having finished Level IX of Syllabus, despite struggling with a drug-addicted father and the death of his grandfather a few months ago, plus constant moves as the family finds sure footing. He is so ready to start over in a new world and to begin pursuing his dreams.

Our final recitals were Sunday, and I presented him with a wrapped package. The New Harvard Dictionary of Music (Fourth Edition). Inside the front cover is a note from his teacher, thanking him for our time together studying music and sending him off to his college music studies and to the adventures beyond. It is good to call him a friend.

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

Sincerely
Neil Patton
Con Brio Editor

Con Brio

June 2017

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

President: David Cragun, Vice-President: Laura DuBois, Treasurer: Wyatt Burger,
Corresponding Sec: Alexis Gibbons, Recording Sec: Nick Rieser, 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

From the Vice President

Greetings, OMTA!

On Monday June 12 at 7:00 p.m., we'll be having our OMTA end-of-the-year potluck. Lucy Clevenger is hosting - thank you, Lucy! Her address is 3345 Chambers, 97405. Parking is available in the driveway and on the street.

This is a potluck, so please bring a favorite dish. After dinner, our Soule scholarship winner, Anna Laptova, will perform. It will be a lovely evening!

Laura DuBois,
District Vice President

| DATE | DESCRIPTION | DEBIT | CREDIT | BALANCE |
|-------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|------------------|--------------------|
| 05/01/2017 | Beginning Balance | | | \$ 2,383.28 |
| 05/09/2017 | PEAK Internet | 14.97 | | |
| 05/09/2017 | Donation to General Fund | | 100.00 | |
| 05/15/2017 | Meeting-misc. expenses | 53.25 | | |
| 06/01/2017 | TOTALS | \$ 68.22 | \$ 100.00 | \$ 2,415.06 |

Savings account balance: \$ 9,474.33

Certificate of deposit: \$ 2,336.23

Respectfully submitted,

Wyatt L. Burgen

OMTA-Eugene District Treasurer

The deadline for submitting articles and announcements for the September 2017 issue of Con Brio is Sunday, September 3, 2017.

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.

Event Summary: Music Teacher Showcase

Our very first Music Teacher Showcase was held on Saturday, May 13, at Unity of the Valley. Participants included Eugene District teachers, along with guest performers, and the 2017 high school winner of the Beverly Soule Memorial Scholarship. A variety of solo and ensemble works were performed, representing many musical styles and composers. There were also original works by Paul Safar and Victor Steinhardt.

Although just over two hours, with a brief intermission, the appreciative and enthusiastic audience seemed to enjoy the program, and we received many positive comments.

A total of 110 tickets were sold, both in advance and at the door. Ticket sales, combined with several generous contributions and, minus expenses, came to \$720 to add to the scholarship fund.

Our thanks to everyone who contributed to the success of this recital: the performers who devoted time to practice and rehearsal in preparation for the recital; to the volunteers who gave so generously of their me to help the recital run smoothly; and a special thank you to my co-chair, Laura DuBois.

Congratulations to Anna Laptova, our 2017 scholarship winner!

As with any new endeavor, there is always some anticipation and uncertainty as to whether the event will be successful. Based on comments received from both the participants and audience members, our first Music Teacher Showcase was an overwhelming success! I am hoping this recital will become an annual event for our district.

Respectfully submitted,
Wyatt Burger
Music Teacher Showcase



Festival of Popular Music

Saturday, October 21, 2017

Unity of the Valley

Now is the time to begin preparing your students for the *Festival of Popular Music*. If you teach part or all of the summer, popular music provides a welcome change for your students. If you take the summer off, assign popular music to your students now, for them to learn over the summer.

Last year's festival had only 25 students from 6 teachers. I want to see those numbers **DOUBLE** for this year's festival. The *Festival of Popular Music* is one of the most fun and entertaining of all of our events. There is such a great variety of music to choose from: **movie themes, arrangements of current popular songs, standards from the past, jazz, ragtime, original improvisations, popular classics**. Also consider duets and other ensembles. Plan now!

Wyatt Burger, chair
Festival of Popular Music

Beverly Soule Memorial Scholarship Competition 2017

The annual Beverly Soule Memorial Scholarship competition took place on Sunday, April 30. There was just one contestant, Anna Laptova, South Eugene High school junior. Liz Willis, NCTM of Portland was the adjudicator this year.

Anna Laptova, student of Lucy Clevenger, won \$900 award and performed at Music Teacher Showcase recital on Saturday, May 13, at which she received her award. She is also invited to perform at our June potluck.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucy Clevenger NCTM
Beverly Soule Scholarship Committee Chair, 2017



"The kids want to start a reality show."