



President Message, January 2019

Happy New Year, everybody!!!

As this Holidays' season approaches its end, I wish all of you much joy, good health, and fantastic musical activities for this coming year. Did some of you think about resolutions? More musical practices? Organize a personal music library? Exercise? Recital? Travel? Studying? Be sure to have many resolutions, this way at least some of them will be accomplished!!!

Before jumping into 2019, let's review this past month for Eugene OMTA.

On November 29, Ellen McQuilkin and Sandy Hull gave a presentation to the UO piano pedagogy students, a class taught by Olga Aynvarg during this Fall term. This was the first step in outreaching to music students in Eugene. Thanks Ellen, Lucy, and Olga!



On December 10, we had a wonderful Holiday Potluck at the house of Alexis Gibbons, with good food, good music, and fruitful conversations. We did not take minutes, but you can read a review of these conversations below. [If you present students at the Ensemble Festival, I urge you to read the review.](#) Thanks so much, Alexis for hosting this event in your comfortable studio!

The play-a-thon at Barnes and Nobles ran smoothly on the weekend of December 15-16. Thanks to Lucy Clevenger for organizing the event!

Like usually, you can read more about all these events in the following articles.



For this coming month, the Baroque Festival deadline is approaching. Check the website! And we will have our January meeting on Monday, January 14. See you all there!

Very musically,
Genevieve Mason
Eugene District President

OMTA Eugene Treasurer's Report



Account Activity
December 1, 2018
through
December 31, 2018



Checking Account

Date	Description	Debit	Credit	Balance
December 1, 2018	Beginning Balance			\$ 3,297.80
December 4, 2018	Fall Syllabus	\$948.00		
December 19, 2018	U of O	\$ 267.50		
December 28, 2018	Membership		\$ 25.00	
December 31, 2018	Ending Balance			\$ 2,107.30

Savings Account

Date	Description	Debit	Credit	Balance
December 1, 2018	Beginning Balance			\$ 10,903.95
December 31, 2018	Interest		\$ 0.46	
December 31, 2018	Ending Balance			\$ 10,904.41

Certificate of Deposit

Date	Description	Debit	Credit	Balance
December 31, 2018	Balance			\$ 2,346.79

Treasurer Cheri Ann Richardson

The deadline for submitting articles and announcements for the February 2019 issue of Con Brio is Sunday, February 3, 2019.

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 2019

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

President: Genevieve Mason, Vice-President: Janet Pollack, Treasurer: Cheri Richardson,
Corresponding Sec: Alexis Gibbons, Recording Sec: Nick Rieser, Past President: David Cragun
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

January 14th, 2019th Meeting and Program

Hello Members,

I am proud to announce that the Eugene District of the Oregon Music Teachers Association with funding from a Nellie Tholen Grant will present **Linda Barker** in a program titled “Studies and Etudes to Master and Perform for Intermediate and Advanced Players.” Ms. Linda Barker is one of the most sought-after pianists in the Northwest. A native of Portland, Oregon, Ms. Barker studied with Carla Vincent and Nellie Tholen. She has appeared as soloist with the Oregon Symphony, the West Coast Chamber Orchestra and the Portland Youth Philharmonic. In addition to her performing, Ms. Barker has been a faculty member at the University of Portland, instructor of Piano at Webster College, on the staff at the St. Louis Conservatory and a past president of the Oregon Music Teachers Association, Portland District. Ms. Barker continues to perform as soloist and chamber musician throughout the Pacific Northwest region, and is in demand as a master teacher and adjudicator of piano competitions. Some of the pieces Ms. Barker will play and discuss during her presentation are listed below. I strongly urge you to bring your own music, if you have these pieces in your collection.



Johann Friedrich Burgmüller, op. 100 “The Return” (Eb); op. 105, no. 9 (octave study)
Moritz Moszkowski, (selected from) Virtuoso Etudes, op. 72 and op. 91.
Chopin, (selected from) Etudes
Scriabin Etudes, op. 42, no. 7

Janet Pollack

Vice President, Eugene District-OMTA

Details in Brief

Event date: Monday, January 14th, 2019

Location: First Congregation Church, 1050 E 23rd, Eugene, OR 97405, Wheeler Room

Social Gathering: 9:00-9:30 am

Baroque Festival: Call for Talent!

Attention music teachers. Can your students play or sing music by Vivaldi, Scarlatti, Monteverdi, Handel, Purcell, Pachelbel, Couperin, Telemann, Rameau, J. S. Bach, W. F. Bach, C. P. E. Bach, or any other Baroque composers? If so, we need them! As chair of the Eugene OMTA Baroque Festival this year, I would like to have your students come and share their music.

The original purpose of the OMTA Baroque Festival was to encourage students to study the works of J. S. Bach. Subsequently, our members felt it was important to open up the music requirements to include all of the great Baroque composers. Please choose original works instead of arrangements, and feel free to search for something unusual. The more variety we have, the better the experience will be for everybody.

There is a non-competitive division,

<https://oregonmta.org/wp-content/uploads/BaroqueTeacherNonComp.pdf>

and a competitive division.

<https://oregonmta.org/wp-content/uploads/BaroqueTeacherComp.pdf>

You must use Leggiero to enter your students before January 28th. Recitals will be at Unity of the Valley on February 9th. After receiving all the entries, I will schedule out the recital times and send the information to teachers. Check our local and state websites for information, then call or email me if you have any questions.

<https://omta-eugene.org/event/baroque-festival/>

<https://oregonmta.org/programs/festivals/baroque-festival/>

David Cragun, Chair

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541-653-9704

District Composition Celebration

Attention budding composers! It's that time of year again to think about submitting student compositions for our annual District Composition Celebration. The recital will take place on Friday, April 5th at 5 :30 pm at Unity of the Valley. This years adjudicator will be Nicholas Yandell from Portland! The entries need to be submitted to me by March 14th. This promises to be a rewarding event as always. I plan on having a special little tribute to Tomas Svoboda as well at this recital. If you have questions, email me at info@cblossom.org I hope to hear some of your students works!

Paul Safar

District Chair of the Composition Celebration



the third annual
***Beverly Soule Memorial
 Scholarship Fundraiser Recital***

**Saturday, May 18 at 3 PM
 Unity of the Valley**

The ***Teacher Showcase*** is an opportunity for OMTA teachers to perform, and at the same time, help raise funds for the *Beverly Soule Memorial Scholarship*.

Now is the time to begin planning for this event by selecting repertoire. Music may be single movements, short, descriptive works, and music that appeals to both children and adults, in any style, including jazz, popular, novelty, and original compositions. Duets and ensembles are always welcome. The emphasis is on **variety**. *Don't miss this opportunity for students to hear their teachers perform!*

The *Teacher Showcase* can only take place if we have enough participants. We also need all members to help promote this event. Watch for additional information in the February issue of *Con Brio*.

Wyatt Burger
 westlanepiano@cvcable.net

Barnes & Noble Fundraising

Our annual two-day fundraising play-a-thon took place on Saturday and Sunday, December 15th and 16th, 2018 at Barnes@Noble bookstore in Eugene from 10:20 a.m. till 7 p.m. The Kawai grand piano and artistic bench was provided by Tom Turner, the manager of Eugene Piano Company free of charge. There were twenty participating teachers and we had only six open time slots for both days. Barnes@Noble Community Relations Coordinator Ben Brock was very kind to say after the event that OMTA students continue to awe and inspire. He will report our proceeds when the numbers are tallied.

Lucy Clevenger, NCTM
lucyclevenger@gmail.com
 951-440-1841

OMTA Reaching Out at the University of Oregon

On December 3rd, I received the following message from Sandy Hull:

“Just wanted to let you know that Ellen and I gave a brief presentation to the UO pedagogy students last Thursday. It went very well and we were able to explain what MTNA, OMTA and Eugene district can do for them as student members. Olga is teaching the class this term so we all talked about what the organization does for us and why we value the membership. There were only 5 students in the class but some were interested. Ellen prepared a very thorough outline of benefits available to members and how easy it is to join. Hopefully we inspired them to join or at least come to our presentations.”

During our Holiday potluck, Ellen McQuilkin, Sandy Hull, and Olga Aynvarg shared with our group about this visit. What a great beginning for our students' outreach. I hope we will be able to create a student collegiate at the UO. Another step would be to reach LCC's music students. Speaking about new year resolutions???

Genevieve Mason



"If we were a medical school, and you were here as a med student practicing appendectomies, you'd take your work very seriously because you would imagine that some night at two AM someone is going to waltz into your emergency room and you're going to have to save their life. Well, my friends, someday at 8 PM someone is going to walk into your concert hall and bring you a mind that is confused, a heart that is overwhelmed, a soul that is weary. Whether they go out whole again will depend partly on how well you do your craft.

You're not here to become an entertainer, and you don't have to sell yourself. The truth is you don't have anything to sell; being a musician isn't about dispensing a product, like selling used Chevies. I'm not an entertainer; I'm a lot closer to a paramedic, a firefighter, a rescue worker. You're here to become a sort of therapist for the human soul, a spiritual version of a chiropractor, physical therapist, someone who works with our insides to see if they get things to line up, to see if we can come into harmony with ourselves and be healthy and happy and well."

- Karl Paulnack

More Conversations on December 10th

Ensemble Festival

In her Ensemble Festival Report (*Con Brio*, December, 2018) Susane Davis raised the question about the location for our Ensemble Festival next year. At the Holiday potluck, it was proposed that **any teacher who would need two pianos for their students ensemble in Fall 2019 should inform the president Genevieve Mason no later than May 15, 2019. If no teacher needs two pianos, we will have the Ensemble Festival at the Unity of the Valley Church, with only one piano. We will take a vote on that proposition during the January 2019 meeting.**

Dress Code

Another good conversation at the potluck was about updating our District's dress code for recitals. Our current dress code is outdated and needs major revisions. We are planning to finalize our new dress code at our meeting in January, and to publish it on the website.

Following are two messages that may be useful in view of this subject:

"A music recital is a special occasion. Choosing your outfit with care will not only enhance your experience but will help your audience enjoy your performance. Use discretion and do not wear anything that may interfere or distract from your performance. If you are unsure as to *appropriate dress, please consult your teacher.*" *Janet Pollack*

"A couple years ago at Barnes & Noble, I had four high school girls all wearing a short dress or skirt over leggings. I thought they looked great! Perhaps they would have felt uncomfortable wearing a skirt covering their knees. Actually two of them didn't think they needed anything other than their leggings, since that was normal wear for them at that time, but with a little push from me (for which their mothers were grateful) they came up with the idea of adding the short skirt."

So, what's "appropriate" - shorts skirts allowed only if leggings are included? Would that still be applicable a few years later? If one teacher's idea of "appropriate" is vastly different from another teacher's, is that okay for a joint recital?

Perhaps the style of music being played enters in, too. From Yuja Wang: "If the music is beautiful and sensual, why not dress to fit?" ... "If I'm going to get naked with my music, I may as well be comfortable while I'm at it." *Jane Young*

Genevieve Mason