

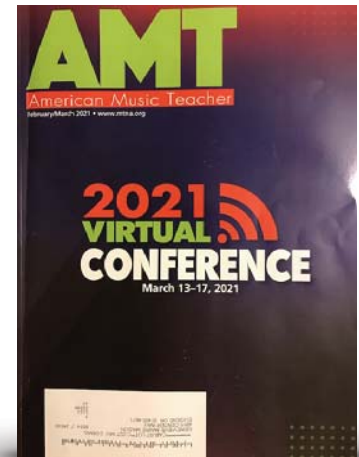


## President's Message, February 2021,

Hello everybody,

Our OMTA state meetings, including the OMTA President Round Table, and the OMTA Board meeting took place online yesterday, Saturday January 30. It was nice to meet with our colleagues from all over Oregon. Our State President Sarah Ball brought the results of the survey done last Fall. 99 members participated. It shows how Covid 19 has affected in different ways about 45% of the participants. Please, let us know if you are having difficulties, or if you are aware of some members having a hard time. We can always give a phone call, or send a card. At the same time, 70% of the participants say they kept their students, or even got more students. I was quite astonished, and happy to hear that.

We were also reminded that the MTNA virtual conference is taking place on March 13-17, and registration is cheaper if you register prior to February 15. You can find a lot of information in the February/March AMT brochure. I just read about Angela Myles Beeching who specializes in Music Career coaching, and will speak at the Opening Session. I am sure she will bring a very positive view on how to manage our profession during the pandemic. Also, be aware that Carol White from our district will be recognized as the 2020 Oregon MTNA Foundation Fellow during the gala (See more in the following pages.)



About our district news, the Baroque Festival will take place on January 6, with the same format as the Fall events. We will see wonderful videos again.

Now about videos, some students, families, and teachers are getting tired of creating them. It seems that several teachers would like to adopt a different format for our March students' event, the "Eugene OMTA District Recitals." We are thinking of having live performances on Zoom for this event. That means that students would be performing from their home, or maybe from their teacher's studio. We all are aware that the sound quality could be inferior to the one of a video, and also some extra "musical" elements, like a dog barking, or a child crying, could spice the music. But at the same time, we would have the joy and excitement that a live performance brings. Please come to the business meeting on February 8, so we can make a decision together.

On the same day, February 8, following the business meeting, we will have the great joy to hear the presentation "Pedaling Through the Ages—Cracking the Code: Historical Guidelines and Strategies for informed Performance" by Dr. Jill Timmons. Please read the article by Janet Pollack.

See you all on February 8,  
*Genevieve Mason*  
Eugene/Springfield District OMTA President

## February 8, 2021 Meeting and Program

### Hello Members,

I am delighted that The Eugene District of the Oregon Music Teachers Association in partnership with the Oregon Community Foundation and the Nellie Tholen Fund will present a free lecture for pianists, piano teachers and all who would be interested on Monday, February 8, 2021 from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. presented by Dr. Jill Timmons, NCTM. No pre-registration, membership or fee is required. Please feel free to invite friends, students, and other interested community members. Non-members need to notify **Genevieve Mason**, if they intend to join us.

### About the program: *Pedaling Through the Ages—Cracking the Code: Historical Guidelines and Strategies for informed Performance*

Pedaling on the modern piano is not an exact science, but there are critical principles that can shape our informed performance. In this lecture, Dr. Timmons will explore performance practice guidelines, historically informed choices, keyboard instruments spanning some 350 years, how we adapt the modern piano to past practices, and essential skills required for artful pedaling. Weaving in demonstration and lecture, Dr. Timmons will offer clear strategies and historical guidelines to a more artful use of the modern piano pedals. A bibliography for further reading is also provided.

### About Dr. Jill Timmons, NCTM

Jill Timmons has performed internationally as both a solo pianist and ensemble artist and has offered performances and educational residencies on three Dr. Timmons, has been a featured artist on National Public Radio, has performed under the auspices of the National Endowment for the Arts and has recorded on the Laurel, Centaur, and Capstone labels. Ken Burns chose music from her Amy Beach recording for the soundtrack to his PBS documentary, *The War*. She is a National Endowment Fellow, receiving a funding award for the recording of the complete works for solo piano by American composer, William Bergsma (Laurel Records); as an award-winning author, Timmons has written on topics that include entrepreneurship and volunteerism within the arts and humanities.



Currently, Timmons is the Artist/Teacher Affiliate with Classic Pianos at their flagship store in Portland, Oregon, and in their satellite locations in Bellevue, Denver, Anchorage, Las Vegas, Boston, and Albuquerque. She holds the Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Washington and the Master of Music degree from Boston University.

### Details in Brief:

**Date:** February 8, 2021

**Venue:** Online via Zoom

**Business Meeting:** 9:00-9:55 AM

**Program:** 10:00-11:30 AM

The deadline for submitting articles and announcements for the March 2021 issue of Con Brio is Sunday, February 28, 2021.

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.

## OMTA Eugene Treasurer's Report



Account Activity  
January 1, 2021  
through  
January 30, 2021



### Checking Account

Date	Description	Debit	Credit	Balance
January 1, 2021	Beginning Balance			\$ 2,584.36
January 20, 2021	January Mtg. Pres.	\$200.00		
January 30, 2021	Ending Balance			\$ 2,384.36

### Savings Account

Date	Description	Debit	Credit	Balance
January 1, 2021	Beginning Balance			\$ 11,395.22
January 30, 2021	Ending Balance			\$ 11,395.22

### Certificate of Deposit

Date	Description	Debit	Credit	Balance
January 30, 2021	Balance			\$ 2,405.89

Treasurer Cheri Ann Richardson

### **Con Brio** **February 2021**

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: Sandy Hull, Recording Sec: Soria Phillips-Meadow, Past President: Genevieve Mason  
Con Brio founder and first publisher: Lea Mirabella  
Con Brio is posted on the Eugene District website on the Wednesday prior to the monthly meeting.  
**Neil Patton, editor**

## 2021 Spring District Recitals

Looking ahead to brighter, warmer days and all the gifts that springtime holds! Among those each year is hearing our students play at the Eugene Spring District Recitals.

Register your students via *Leggiero* and send your entry fees with one check to the chairman by the **February 26 deadline** to participate. This year's recital format is open for discussion at the next meeting as many students, parents, and teachers are weary of the recording process. Perhaps we can have a live Zoom recital in real time, or possibly a hybrid of pre-recorded performances mixed in with the live performances. Let us know your thoughts.

**The festival will be held on Saturday, March 13.** These recitals are open to students Level II and above and offer an opportunity to gain valuable performance experience beyond the studio recital. Choice of repertoire is open. Preparation and quality of performance should be equivalent to that of other OMTA events. Memorization is strongly encouraged but not required.

Hope to see you there!

*Ellen*

Ellen McQuilkin,  
Festival Chair  
4895 Donald St.  
Eugene, OR, 97405



## Composition Celebration

Happy winter/early spring everyone! Here is a quick update on this years **Student Composition Celebration**. The date of this years event is **Sunday, April 11th at 2 p.m.** and will, like our other recitals this year be virtual with students submitting pre recorded videos of their compositions on a private youtube link and meeting via zoom. We are putting the deadline for entrees and score submissions at March 26th and the deadline for video submissions at April 1st. A new, writable pdf entry form will be available on our website. All submissions will be done electronically if possible with scores emailed to Paul at [info@cblossom.org](mailto:info@cblossom.org). For this years event, we will have Michael Johanson, professor at Lewis and Clark College in Portland, as our adjudicator, providing private comments on each piece and being present at the viewing party to watch/hear all the pieces. In addition, on Saturday, February 27th at 1 p.m., we plan on holding our second annual Composition Workshop (Zoom edition) for students whose works are still in progress. This will be a very informal sharing just to chat and exchange ideas and tips. Let us know if you have any questions. Thanks!

-Paul Safar and Nick Rieser, co chairs of the Composition Celebration Recital





the fifth annual  
**Teacher Showcase**

Sunday, May 16, 2021  
Zoom/YouTube

*Following a year of student recitals and festivals, the **Teacher Showcase** offers a performance opportunity to OMTA teachers in the Eugene District.*

*This year's showcase is scheduled for Sunday, May 16 and, due to COVID-19 restrictions and safety measures, will be presented "virtually," via **Zoom** and **YouTube**. Teachers will record their performances in the comfort of their own home or studio, or the location of their choice.*

*As with past Teacher Showcase recitals, please limit repertoire to single movements; short, descriptive works, and music that appeals to both children and adults. Music may be in any style, including jazz, popular, novelty, and original compositions. Ensemble and collaborative works are especially welcome. Emphasis for this recital is on **variety**.*

*The **Teacher Showcase** is a rare opportunity for students to hear their teacher perform! Please watch for additional information in the coming months, and let me know if you have any questions.*

Wyatt Burger,  
Teacher Showcase Recital Chair  
westlanepiano@icloud.com

## **Carol White recognized as the 2020 Oregon MTNA Foundation Fellow!!!**

Carol White, from our district, will be receiving a huge honor as our Foundation Fellow at the MTNA Conference. As a new MTNA Foundation Fellow, she will be recognized during the Conference Gala during the 2021 MTNA Virtual Conference. Even though it will be an online event, the Gala will be held live Monday, March 15, at 7:00 p.m. Eastern Time. During the Fellows Recognition part of the program, a brief bio will be read by MTNA President Martha Hilley, during which her picture will be displayed on screen. She will be receiving her Fellow Certificate, pin, and commemorative program after the event.

It would be great if many of us would be present at the virtual Gala Awards Banquet. I think that we can register for the Gala even if we don't want to register for the whole conference. You can also add the Gala Awards Banquet when you register for the conference.

This is really something to celebrate!

Congratulations, Carol!

Genevieve Mason  
Eugene/Springfield District OMTA President



## MINUTES

Eugene District OMTA – General Meeting  
Monday, January 11, 2021 Zoom Meeting

---

President MASON called the meeting to order at 9:06 am.

Attendees including for the presentation: *Genevieve Mason, Janet Pollack, Sandy Hull, Paul Safar, Marti Csonka, Nick Rieser, Lucy Clevenger, Alexis Gibbons, Kami Hendrix, Soria Phillips-Meadow*

- December minutes were approved.
- The budget was approved.

**Committee Reports:**

**Baroque Festival** – co-chairs Olga Alynvar Ellen McQuiklkin and Andrew Pham

- Registration open in Leggiero
- Deadline 1/22 / Fees due 1/29

**Composition Festival 4/11** – Paul Safar, chair – Nick Rieser co-chair

- Michael Johanson, – adjudicator from Lewis & Clark

**Teacher Showcase 5/16** – Wyatt Burger, chair

- Same format as student recitals -broadcast on YouTube with a zoom reception
- Will be able to make direct donations for scholarships
- Teachers will play
- Beverly Soule winners will be invited to play

**Beverly Soule Scholarship** – for juniors and seniors – winners announced 4/24

- students will be invited to play at the Teacher Showcase and at the June Potluck
- this year we will invite, but not require these performances, however, teachers should strongly encourage participation

**Syllabus** – registration will open 1/11 and close 3/28 – fees due 3/28

- a PDF with new instructions for creating the YouTube link and Google Drop box will be posted on the Eugene OMTA website
- a 5-minute break will be scheduled between teachers

**In Good Hands** –7/17 Paul Safar, chair, with Jan Mittlestaedt and Daniel Brugh

- an opportunity for students and teachers to work with living composers
- 2/22 – deadline for compositions after which teachers can choose music for students
- 3/1 – scores will be sent out to teachers
- 3/10 – deadline for teachers to send requests to Jan Mittlestaedt
- 15 Cascadia composers have been commissioned by 13 teachers
- this year it is expanded to include student-teacher collaboration

**Additional topics:**

-Regarding private vs. public YouTube Channels for Eugene OMTA recitals – it was confirmed that we should use a private YouTube Channel only.

-The use of recital videos for publicity - because parents have signed a Video Release Form indicating that the student videos are only for the purpose of the OMTA Zoom Recitals and not for other uses, it was proposed that we either 1) offer a Showcase Recital for the purpose of OMTA publicity for students interested in participating for that purpose or 2) that we use the Teacher Showcase for publicity.

-MTNA Virtual Conference is coming up.

-Having a place on our website for lecture links and materials.

**Presentation:**

Dr. Stephen Lewis gave an incredibly illuminating presentation entitled: ***Diversity and Antiracism in Piano Teaching***. This lecture was very fitting and truly enlightening.

Respectfully submitted,  
Soria Phillips-Meadow  
Recording Secretary

"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