



President's Message February 2022

Hello everybody, I want to remind all of you that the February "Music News", our state newsletter, is available and is full of information. Be sure to look at it! There is information about the MTNA 2022 National Conference, the 2022 OMTA State Conference, the different programs offered in several districts, the collegiate festival organized by the U of O chapter, a conversation opened by Sarah Ball on our possible need for tech support, and much more. Here is the link <https://oregonmta.org/wp-content/uploads/2022-Music-News-February.pdf>

On January 22, the OMTA District Presidents' meeting and the State Board's meeting took place virtually. We surprised our State President Sarah Ball with an Honorary Life Membership. Also, a motion for the formation of a new OMTA district, the Hillsboro Area District district, was approved.

Later on that same day, January 22, we gathered in person at the Eugene Piano Company for the Ensemble Festival. It was a small number of participants, but a very fun and friendly event. And the guest adjudicator Grant Mack was very inspiring, sharing about his experience and passion for Chamber Music. Thanks to Janet who co-chaired with me!

Our District Baroque Festival happened on February 5. It was a virtual event, when we listened to recordings by students wonderfully put together in an iMovie. The quality of performance was impressive! And another adjudicator, Dr. Rachelle McCabe shared great advice about the practice of Baroque Music for the keyboard. Thanks Olga and Winnie for organizing!

Exciting events will continue to happen, the presentation by Toby Koenigsberg on February 14, the Eugene OMTA District Recital on March 6, the in-person coaching with Donna Gunn at the University of Oregon on March 7, etc... Be sure to check the Eugene/Springfield website, <https://omta-eugene.org/>, all the articles in this Con Brio, and all messages that are sent through our email list, to be well informed, and plan for your students' participation!

See you all on February 14.

Genevieve Mason
Eugene/Springfield District OMTA President



What would they think if they could see the Baroque Festival videos?

February 14, 2022 Meeting (9:00 am) and Program (10:00-11:30 am)

I am pleased to announce that our February presenter is Toby Koenigsberg, assistant professor of jazz piano and associate director of jazz studies at the University of Oregon. Toby's engaging talk focuses on the basics of how jazz works and some fundamental mechanics of how we play/learn/teach it, and he explains the value of jazz to all musician—better understanding of theory, better aural skills, spontaneity, etc. In a time when learning an instrument focuses heavily on technical skills and reading the notes, this program fosters creativity in students and urges students to look beyond the page.

Toby Koenigsberg has performed extensively throughout Oregon, Washington, California, Nevada, Texas, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Alberta, Ontario, Japan, and elsewhere. He has performed with jazz musicians and ensemble leaders including Marian McPartland, Rich Perry, Ben Monder, and Bill Holman. Currently he tours regularly with the Toby Koenigsberg Trio. In addition to performing, Koenigsberg has written numerous compositions and arrangements for large and small jazz ensembles and for studio orchestra. Down Beat Magazine awarded his composition "Song for Aki" Best Original Song in its 2002 Student Music Awards. Koenigsberg is also published by the Jazz Education Journal, the official publication of the International Association for Jazz Education (IAJE), and has given lecture/demonstrations on the music of Bud Powell at the 2005 annual conference of the IAJE, the Eastman School of Music, and at Jazz Festival Calgary.



Koenigsberg received his Master of Music degree in Jazz and Contemporary Media from the Eastman School of Music. Prior to that, he pursued graduate study in classical piano at the Peabody Conservatory under renowned teacher Ann Schein. His undergraduate study was at the University of Oregon.

2022 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.

We are planning to hold the festival **in-person at the United Lutheran Church on Sunday, March 6** observing all recommended health guidelines. Should the situation warrant it, we will announce a return to the virtual hybrid recital format. Please note the date has been changed due to availability at the United Lutheran Church.

Register your students via *Leggiero* and send your entry fees with one check to the recital chair by the **February 22 deadline** to participate. Registration will be open from February 7 through February 22, 2022.

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 Sunday, April 10th at 1 p.m.

This years recital is scheduled to take place in person(always subject to change of course) on Sunday, April 10th at 1 p.m. at the United Lutheran Church. The deadline for score submission is March 18th. This years adjudicator is Daniel Vega, a composer-performer based in Portland who recently got his Masters Degree. He plans on coming down and also doing a fun little improvisatory participatory musical exercise with us if time allows. Feel free to email either Nick Rieser or myself, Paul Safar, if you have any questions. This years recital will most likely be small ish (which is fine for this pandemic year), with a nice age range represented. Just to plant to seed for 2023,however, Nick and I would like to try something different and do a collaborative silent film scoring project!

UPCOMING March 7th, Special Program & Workshop Call for student and/or teacher participants!!

Hello members!

This is an early reminder that in lieu of a program on the second Monday of the month, we are offering a very special event on March 7th, the first Monday. Donna Gunn—scholar/performer/author who recently published her research as a book titled *Discoveries From the Fortepiano*—is invited back to Eugene to hold a workshop on the University of Oregon campus in the lovely Tykeson Hall (Berwick) from 8:45 am-to-12:00 pm. This workshop is funded by a generous grant and hosted by the university. Please note this is not a masterclass per se, so students are encouraged to perform works or portions of a larger piece in progress. Donna's primary focus is on 18th century music, but pieces from the early-mid 19th century are welcome. There will be an authentic (not replica) 1848 fortepiano for the students to play as well as a modern instrument. The intent is for the student and teacher to experience the quality of sound produced on an instrument originally intended for the repertoire and ask for advice from our guest scholar/performer on how to creatively transfer the sound/articulation/phrasing of the fortepiano to a modern piano. All in attendance will have an opportunity to briefly play the fortepiano! We are so fortunate to be able to bring Donna Gunn to Eugene from Nebraska for this event!

Please let me know ASAP if you have a student who wishes to participate. This is a great opportunity for all students and ages at any level. Teachers are also welcome to perform. Send all responses to Janet Pollack at janetkippollack@comcast.net

The tentative schedule appears below:

8:30-8:45 arrival and set up

8:45-9:00 teachers/students arrive

9:00-9:40 Program: Debunking the Conundrum: Mastering 18-century Repertoire at the
Micro Level or "It's just a quarter note...how hard can it be?"

5 minute break

9:45-11:15 workshop continues with students and their repertoire

11:15-11:30-ish Q/A

11:30-11:50 Teachers access to fortepiano, clean up and leave

Con Brio ***February 2022***

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

Eugene District Spring 2022 Syllabus

Our Spring Syllabus is scheduled for April 22 - 24, 2022 (Friday through Sunday). Registration on Leggerio opens Monday, Jan. 17, and **closes Saturday, March 26.** The **deadline for payment is Monday, March 28.**

It is always a good idea to review the Syllabus manual for the specific theory skills in each level, the differences in requirements of the Evaluation, Demonstration and Audition, and all General Guidelines at the beginning of the manual. In addition, a reminder to teachers with Level 10 students, please double check the repertoire to conform to Level 10 Syllabus requirements.

Syllabus will hopefully be a hybrid arrangement of in-person and on-line exams. Please remember these details for the hybrid syllabus:

1. if you choose in-person exams at your studio and you do not have a full adjudication day, you will be asked to host students from other studios who also choose in-person. Safety protocols established by the state must be followed.

2. if you have a combination of in-person and on-line exams, these will not be necessarily scheduled on the same day or with the same adjudicator. If you have a combination of in-person and on-line, you should sign up for 2 conferences.

3. not all adjudicators are comfortable with in-person exams and I will not know those particulars until I hear from the adjudicators assigned to our District. In addition, we don't know what is in store regarding Covid this Spring. The best plans for in-person exam may go out the window if we are in the midst of high Covid numbers, sickness and hospitalizations. Please continue to be flexible.

Finally, please observe the closing date and payment deadline date above.

If you have any questions, please email me at either of the addresses below.

Happy Spring everyone!

Carol White, NCTM

carolsstudio1@mac.com or carolandlew@comcast.net

District Ensemble Festival Report January 22, 2022

The 2022 district Ensemble Festival took place on January 22 at the Eugene Piano Company. Tom Turner, proprietor, kindly provided the venue free of charge to OMTA. Genevieve Mason and Janet Pollack co-chaired the event. After two years of virtual performances, we were excited about the return to an in-person festival and all present clearly enjoyed the event. Our adjudicator was Grant Mack, a doctoral candidate in Collaborative Piano at the University of Oregon and seasoned performer. Mr. Mack was impressed with the caliber of performances and expressed appreciation for the opportunity to participate. Following the concert, Mack offered his heartfelt insights into the joys of ensemble playing and made clear his personal preference for making music with others. Performing were 8 students grouped in 4 ensembles; participating teachers were Lucy Clevenger and Genevieve Mason. Three ensembles chose the competitive option, and one ensemble chose the non-competitive option. The following students were invited to participate in the fall 2022 state event:

Division 2: Emmie Cho and Timmy Cho, students of Lucy Clevenger

Division 3: Mohini Iyer and Kangmin Kim, students of Lucy Clevenger

Division 4: Ellie Cho and Timmy Cho, students of Lucy Clevenger

There has been concern about holding the district Ensemble Festival nine months prior to the state event. Some members fear this may be a problem for students who are invited to the state festival: students may not keep up their pieces and/or get tired of them over the intervening nine months. Suggestions were made that future district ensemble festivals be scheduled in the fall not the winter months. Further discussion is required.

OMTA Eugene Treasurer's Report



Account Activity
January 1, 2022
through
January 31, 2022



Checking Account

Date	Description	Debit	Credit	Balance
January 1, 2022	Beginning Balance			\$ 3,221.50
January 27, 2022	Ensemble Fest.		\$ 80.00	
January 31, 2022	Ensemble Adj.	\$50.00		
January 31, 2022	Ending Balance			\$ 3,251.50

Savings Account

Date	Description	Debit	Credit	Balance
January 1, 2022	Beginning Balance			\$ 9,969.59
January 31, 2022	Interest		\$ 0.42	
January 31, 2022	Ending Balance			\$ 9,970.01

Certificate of Deposit

Date	Description	Debit	Credit	Balance
January 31, 2022	Balance			\$ 2,413.11

Treasurer Cheri Ann Richardson

The deadline for submitting articles and announcements for the March 2022 issue of Con Brio is Sunday, March 6, 2022.

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.

MINUTES

Eugene District OMTA * Business Meeting
January 10, 2022 Meeting via zoom

Attendees: *Genevieve Mason, Janet Pollack, Sandy Hull, Winnie Kerner, Betsy Parker, Grace Ho, Paul Safar, Lucy Clevenger, Marina Bengoa Roldan.*

Meeting called to order at 9:04 am.

December Minutes approved.

Treasurer report approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Ensemble Festival: to be held on January 22nd at 5:00 at the Eugene Piano Company. The deadline is January 15th. Genevieve Mason and Janet Pollack are chairing. In light of the small number of participants and required vaccination status for this recital, it was determined that holding the recital in-person would pose less risk to students than having them rehearse together in-person to create recordings. Students are required to be vaccinated with boosters recommended, to wear KN95s, and each student may bring one parent or other guest. Genevieve will purchase children's masks to be available. The adjudicator is a student of Grace Ho's.

Baroque Festival: Space had been reserved for February 5th, however with the surge in the COVID-19 Omicron variant, discussion was necessary to determine safety and viability of holding the Baroque Festival in-person. Winnie Kerner presented data around the current surge and necessary safety protocol for recitals if it were to be held in person particularly in light of the fact that students would not likely have had their booster doses. After discussing how many students were estimated to participate, as well as potential complications with safety protocols including protocol for testing and results among other issues, Genevieve recommended and everyone agreed that Baroque Festival should not be held in-person this year in the midst of the current surge. **Instead it will consist of pre-recorded videos only.** Genevieve noted that students would need to be reminded to follow the recording guidelines closely including wearing concert dress and will send the link for the guidelines to Winnie Kerner for the website.

District Recital: The original date planned was Sunday, March 13th if United Lutheran Church was available. Genevieve will confirm with Ellen if that date is available.

UPDATE on a change made since the meeting: ***District Recital will be held on March 6.***

OMTA Contemporary Music Festival and Composition Celebration: Scheduled for Sunday, April 10th from 2:00-6:00 with 5:00-6:00 for the Composition Celebration. Paul Safar has secured Daniel Vega as the adjudicator. The hope is to have these recitals in-person.

Business: Our Eugene District OMTA is planning to partner with the new UO OMTA Collegiate Chapter at the **Music Fair to be held at the UO School of Music on Friday, January 21st.** Marina is President of the new UO Collegiate Chapter. Genevieve will be managing the District contribution which will include sharing a booth with brochures. The Collegiate Chapter is planning to create a Festival in May-June which will be discussed at the Music Fair.

[Continued on next page...]

Donna Gunn to give a presentation on Monday, March 7th in Berwick Hall. She will be demonstrating on a 19th century keyboard.

Announcements: Matthew Pavilanis is looking for part-time help with his teaching for 6-8 weeks during paternity leave. Katie Caulley is also looking for some substitute help during her maternity leave.

Following the meeting, Dianne Davies gave a wonderful presentation entitled, "Stealing from the Masters."

Respectfully submitted,
Soria Phillips-Meadow
Recording Secretary

Steinway Grand Piano for Sale

Excellent Condition!

A **Steinway M (5'7")** in outstanding condition is currently for sale in Eugene. The serial number of 277885 places the instrument in the time period around 1920-1930. The case "Ebonized" is in excellent condition and the strings and soundboard are in practically new condition. Keys are ivory. The piano has been fully inspected by Mike Reiter, piano technician for the University of Oregon, and guaranteed to be in excellent condition with wonderful action and lovely tone. The owner is asking \$21,000. If interested contact **Mary Rowland** at the5rowlands@gmail.com. If you wish further information about the condition of the piano, you can contact Janet Pollack (janetkippollack@comcast.net) or Mike Reiter (mdreiter440@gmail.com).

