



President's Message September 2022

President's message September 2022

The return to normalcy we are feeling at the beginning of the 2022-2023 school year is most welcome and will hopefully be with us for a long time to come. Finally we can return to the First Congregational Church (1050 E. 23rd Avenue in Eugene) for most of them.

Please make a special effort to come to our first meeting of the year, featuring a social gathering to welcome new and prospective members. Please invite your teacher non-member friends! This is an important part of our effort to build our membership.

Thanks to those who participated in the survey earlier this summer. It showed that in-person meetings are greatly valued as an important social connection, but that a virtual option would be very important for some. I will be working on that. Dr. Ho has put together an exciting season of programs this year reflecting your priorities.

The October (Dr. Lark Powers) and March (Martha Hilley) meetings will be at Berwick Hall, where we will be joined by UO students. Nearby parking will be available to us and will be reimbursed. Two programs (Sott Price in November and Laura Chu Stokes in February) will be on Zoom. However, the business meetings will be at FCC, followed by program viewing on a large screen.

Activities are in good shape - thank you to Ellen McQuilkin for stepping up to chair the Festival of Popular Music! Other Activity Chairs - please make sure your event information on the website is correct. Please note that we need a Chair for the Teacher Showcase next Spring.

The meetings of the District and Activity Chairs and the Executive Committee will take place over the next couple of weeks. This is later than usual and reflects only the time it took for me to get up to speed.

Thank you also to dedicated volunteers who have stepped up to take district chair roles: Wyatt Burger for the Library, and Katie Caulley for Referrals.

This year we will be strengthening our Membership efforts (ably led by past president Genevieve Mason), and our PR/Social media outreach, as well as Mentorship and Recruitment.

Exciting news - we received an OMTA/OCF Foundation grant! More about that next week.

Welcome Back!

Nick Rieser
Eugene-Springfield chapter President



September Meeting

Our first meeting of 2022-2023 will be next Monday, September 19th at [First Congregational Church](#). In addition to the business meeting which will be presided by new president, Nick Rieser, we will have a social program of welcoming new and returning members.

Mark your calendars for our meeting dates this year:

<https://omta-eugene.org/meetings/>

Looking forward to seeing you all soon!

Sincerely,

Grace Ho
Vice-President, OMTA Eugene District

Important Announcement Regarding Email Forwarding to Membership

E-mail message forwarding to the Eugene District OMTA members will not be available from September 19 through September 26th, while I will be out-of-town. Messaging will be available on Tuesday, September 27.

Wyatt Burger
e-mail message forwarding
westlanepiano@icloud.com

Con Brio **September 2022**

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

President: Nick Reiser, Vice-President: Grace Ho, Treasurer: Sarah Rose,
Corresponding Sec: Janet Pollack, 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

The deadline for submitting articles and announcements for the October 2022 issue of Con Brio is Sunday, Oct 2, 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.

Ensemble Festival

Dear Eugene/Springfield OMTA members,

With great joy, we are announcing that the Ensemble Festival will happen again this fall, including the District Recital AND the State Honor Recital. For the district recitals, they will take place on Sunday November 20, 1:00pm to 3:00pm, at the School of Music and Dance of the University of Oregon. You can go to our Eugene OMTA website <https://omta-eugene.org/event/ensemble/> for more information.

Please consider involving students for this wonderful event. It will happen very fast, and it is a great idea to plan repertoire and build ensembles very soon!

For those of you who are not yet familiar with this event, I am copying below the information that will be soon available on the state website.

Happy Ensemble preparation,
Genevieve Mason

“ For this very popular OMTA event, students perform with other students in ensembles of two or more where each part is considered of equal importance. Ensembles include, but are not limited to, duos on one piano, quartets on two pianos, trios on three different instruments, etc. Ensemble playing requires students to listen critically and work with others to achieve a polished, artistic performance. All this enhances the fun in making music and prepares students for their role in the music community later in life..



-
The Ensemble Festival has two components, a competitive district recital and the state non-competitive honors recital. At the district level ensembles have the choice of registering as competitive or non-competitive. Both types of entries receive feedback from master teacher adjudicators and a certificate. For the ensembles that register as competitive, some will be invited to participate in the State Honors Recital as determined by the adjudicator where they will receive a medal.

-
The Fall 2022 State Honors Recital will take place on Saturday, December 10 from 1:00-3:00 pm at the School of Music and Dance—University of Oregon.

To ensure everyone's safety, we will adhere to all CDC recommendations. Please be aware that participants and family members may be required to wear masks

For any additional questions contact Dr. [Genevieve Mason](#) and Dr. [Janet Pollack](#).”

Eugene District Syllabus Information

Syllabus Exams starting Fall 2022 will be primarily in-person with masking optional, following the CDC guidelines as well as the Oregon Health Authority for more localized information.

Please note: Eugene Fall Syllabus will be **November 11 - 13 (Friday - Sunday)**. The Fall **registration deadline is October 14**. Please be sure to observe the registration deadline. We will be in need of studios for Syllabus; typically, we will need at least 1 studio on Friday, 3 - 4 studios on Saturday and 2 studios on Sunday.

There will be a state-wide Virtual Syllabus weekend (November 18-20) for any students who absolutely cannot attend the in-person exam (e.g. the student lives out of state). Both Virtual and in-person Syllabus will include Rhythm and Sight Reading. As in previous years, PDFs and video links are due four days (Mon/Tues) before the scheduled Virtual Syllabus dates. See forms on State Website under Syllabus for instructions on making PDFs and video links.

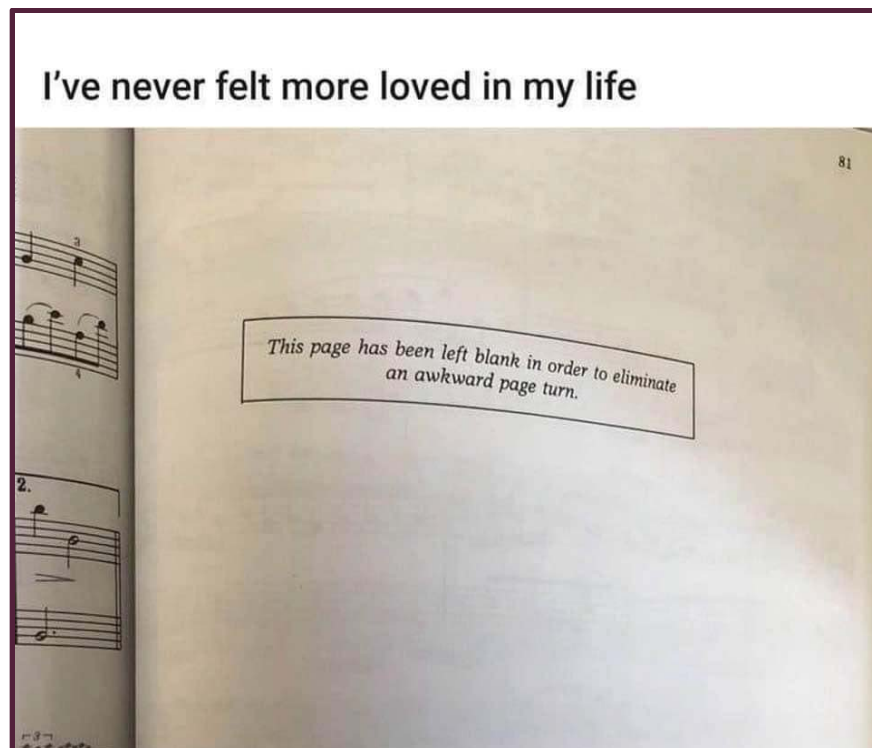
Syllabus fees have been raised starting this fall to cover increases in hotel reimbursements and adjudicator pay raises. The new fee schedule is posted on the State Web-page under Syllabus.

Teacher attendance and teacher conference is required for both in-person and virtual exams. In the next Syllabus update, it will state teachers should have a conference for each scheduled day of their studio. For a full 7 hour day, it will be recommended that teachers have a morning and afternoon conference.

Remember to renew your OMTA membership to unlock your Leggiero account. Questions regarding repertoire may be directed to Ellen McQuilkin, Liz Willis or Carol Ratzlaf.

Musically,

Carol White and Kami Hendrix, Eugene District Syllabus Co-Chairs





OMTA-Eugene District *Lending Library*

BOOKS
DVDS
CDS
PRINT MUSIC

The **Lending Library** is a resource available to **OMTA-Eugene District** members. Materials may be checked for one month (meeting to meeting), and renewed for an additional month, unless the item is requested by another member. Here is the link to the updated library catalog:

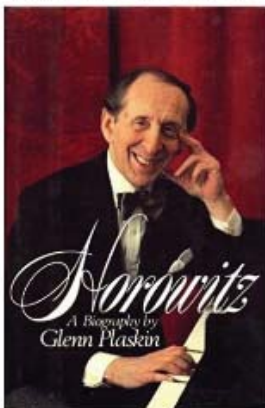
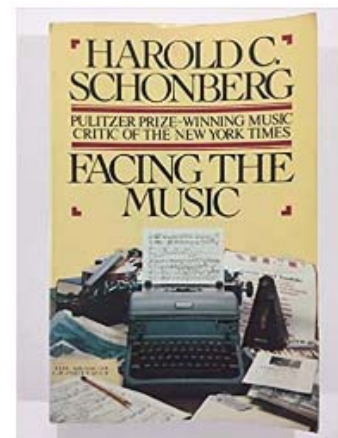
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1b9tyCvILsoEwTGp9M97gO2Xk9EBmJ9eK/view?usp=sharing>

Very soon, the catalog will also include a list of available print music, and CDs or DVDs of many past meeting programs.

Two new books have been added to the library!

Facing the Music, by Harold Schonberg

"For four decades Harold C. Schoenberg has written about music, the last twenty years as the senior music critic of the *New York Times*. This selection of his finest pieces from *The Times* is testimony not only to his remarkable perception, but also to his passionate love of music. There are articles on performance practice, composers, opera, singers, piano, conductors, and more."



Horowitz, by Glenn Plaskin

"*Horowitz* provides the details of a life as rich-veined and provocative as the playing. The author traces the pianist's life through the disastrous effects of the Russian Revolution on his family; his early European triumphs; his volatile marriage to Wanda Toscanini, the daughter of the conductor; his ambivalence toward his troubled daughter, Sonia; his friendships with Rachmaninoff and Rubinstein; his sexual conflicts and well-known eccentricities; his complicated relationships with his six former students; to his nervous collapses, and his "retirements" from the stage."

Please contact me by email for more information or to check out library items. Your suggestions for new additions to the library are always welcome.

Wyatt Burger
westlanepiano@icloud.com

Eugene OMTA 2022-2023 Meeting Schedule

September 19, 2022* – Social gathering

Program: Welcoming both new and returning members
Location: First Congregational Church

October 10, 2022 – "The Creativity of the Baroque Repertoire"

Presenter: [Dr. Lark Powers](#)
Location: University of Oregon, Berwick Hall

*The Baroque repertoire provides an exceptional resource for teaching students to analyze, to develop creativity, and to take charge of their interpretation. Harpsichordist and pianist **Dr. Lark Powers** will introduce pieces in a range of difficulties by less well-known Baroque composers. Discussion includes helping students find cadences, establish phrasing and articulation, and how to translate Baroque musical idioms on the harpsichord and the piano.*

Sponsored by the Nellie Tholen District Enrichment Project

November 14, 2022 – "Adaptive Teaching for Neurodiverse Students"

Presenter: [Dr. Scott Price](#)
Location: Zoom

*Teaching students with special needs can be an extremely rewarding experience, but it has its challenges. **Dr. Scott Price** specializes in teaching students with autism, ADHD, visual impairments, and hearing impairments. In this workshop, Dr. Price will share from his experience about how to identify triggers and routines of neurodiverse students to create adaptive teaching to suit each individual.*

December 12, 2022 – Potluck

Program: Social gathering
Location: TBA

January 16, 2023* – "Late Elementary and Early Intermediate Music by Women Composers"

Presenter: [Dr. Crystal Zimmerman, NCTM](#)
Location: First Congregational Church

*In this presentation, **Dr. Crystal Zimmerman** will feature the music of unknown women composers included in her new anthology, Women Composers, Book 1 (published in the FJH Masterpiece Anthology series). Compositions and biographies of Hedwige Chrétien, Elisabetta de Gambarini, Amy Beach, Mel Bonis, and Marie Jaëll will be covered. The pieces are for late elementary and early intermediate students and span the eras of Baroque to late Romantic.*

February 13, 2023 – “Turning Lemons into Lemonade: Ideas on Productive Lessons When Your Students Haven’t Practiced”

Laura Chu Stokes has been a pianist and music educator for over forty years. A graduate of Indiana University Jacobs School of Music, Laura has taught hundreds of students in her private studio and as the director of Appalachian State University’s Community Music School. Laura also conducts hands-on workshops and clinics for E-Z Notes, a full line of music learning tools. She has been a featured clinician for professional music teacher associations all over the country.

Presenter: [Laura Chu Stokes](#)

Location: Zoom

March 13, 2023 – “Are you and your students getting Full Value out of the repertoire?”

Presenter: [Martha Hilley](#)

Location: University of Oregon, Berwick Hall

*Are you and your students getting Full Value out of the repertoire? Do you always take advantage of all the teachable moments? Remember "enthusiasm" and "curiosity" are both two-way streets! In this presentation, **Martha Hilley** (past president of MTNA and Professor Emeritus of the Butler School of Music at UT Austin) will give a nuts-and-bolts workshop on engaging with students in the studio and making the most out of the repertoire we teach.*

Co-sponsored by the Nellie Tholen Grant and the University of Oregon School of Music and Dance

April 10, 2023 – “The Piano Music of George Walker”

Presenter: [Dr. Alexandre Dossin](#)

Location: First Congregational Church

*Pianist and composer George Walker (1922-2018) was the first African-American to win the Pulitzer Prize for his piece Lilacs in 1996. In this presentation, **Dr. Alexandre Dossin** (Steinway Artist and UO Professor of Piano) will talk about and demonstrate Walker’s musical style in his works for piano. Dr. Dossin has recently been performing George Walker’s piano music around the country, and his recording of Walker’s complete piano works is forthcoming.*

May 8, 2023 – Brunch

Program: Social gathering

Location: TBA

June 12, 2023 – Potluck

Program: Social gathering

Location: TBA

* 3rd Monday (not the 2nd Monday)