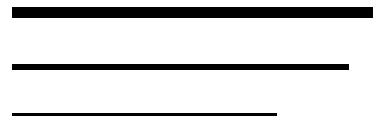


CON BRIO



Oregon Music Teachers' Association, Inc.
Eugene District

Affiliated with the Music Teachers' National Association, Inc.



Opus 208

February 2010

page 1

February Meeting & Program

A special program is planned for February 8, with *Janet Mittelstaedt* of Portland as our guest speaker. Jan is well-known throughout the Northwest as a nationally certified teacher, composer and adjudicator. She holds a BS in Education from Bucknell University, a BA in Music from Marylhurst University and a MM in Composition from the University of Portland. Among recognitions, her biography is included in Marquis Who's Who of America and her studio has been featured in Clavier magazine.

The topic for the Monday presentation will be **Monocle to Musical, Twenty-Five Ideas for Piano Teaching and Practicing**. As she demonstrates various points she will include her own compositions, giving us the opportunity to become better acquainted with contemporary music recommended in the OMTA Syllabus.

The meeting will be held at the home of *Nancy Harris* beginning at 9:00 AM, with refreshments provided by *Jean Wilson* and *Mary Ellen Yost*. Directions to Nancy's home are below. Also refer to the map on page five. Her house is on a cul-de-sac across the street from Valley West Health Care Center at 2283 Warren St. Parking is limited on the cul-de-sac so you are encouraged to park on Warren Street.

I-5 from the North

Take Beltline West to the end where it meets West 11th. Turn left and go to Bailey Hill Road. Turn right and go to Warren Street. Turn left. Watch for the yellow fire hydrant on the left. Turn left at the "Dead End" sign into the cul-de-sac. Do not go up the hill.

I-5 from the South

Take 30th Ave. exit west to the bottom of the hill. Cross Hilyard and 30th becomes Amazon Parkway. Follow Amazon to 18th St. Turn left. Follow 18th to Bailey hill Rd. Turn left. From Bailey Hill, turn left on Warren St. Watch for the yellow fire hydrant on the left. Turn left at the "Dead End" sign into the cul-de-sac. Do not go up the hill.

Virginia Hawley Buhn

District Vice-President & Program Chair



Looking ahead...

Julia Hwakyu Lee, who was scheduled to present a workshop/masterclass for us on April 12, is unable to come due to conflicts in her schedule. As a replacement we are delighted to have the very best... our own *Claire Wachter*! Needed are two or three young pianists, Level VII-X to perform in the masterclass. If you have a student who would be ready for this special experience, please contact Virginia Buhn. Thank you.

The deadline for submitting materials for the March 2010 issue of
Con Brio is Saturday, February 27, 2010.

Composition Celebration

The deadline for student entries in the OMTA Composition Celebration is fast approaching: **Friday, March 12, 2010**. Scores, entry forms, CD, and entry fees and all due on this date. Please refer to page 38 of our 2009-2010 District Yearbook for event details.

The recital and adjudicators will be determined, in part, by the number of entries received. To help in planning this event, please let me know the **number of students you plan to enter**, by February 12. I am looking forward to receiving your student entries.

Wyatt Burger

District Composition Celebration Chair

OMTA Eugene District Website

www.omta-eugene.org

Teacher Referral phone number

242-1024



Con Brio

February 2010

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

President: Carolyn McHan Corresponding Sec: Sarah Burch
Vice-President: Virginia Buhn Recording Sec: Neil Patton
Treasurer: Wyatt Burger Past President: Claire Wachter

Con Brio founder and first publisher: Lea Mirabella

All materials for publication are due on the Saturday preceding the first Monday of each month .

Con Brio is posted on the Eugene District website on the Wednesday prior to the monthly meeting.

Wyatt L. Burger, editor

Oregon Junior Bach Festival

The auditorium at Cascade Manor was alive with the sweet, pure tones of Baroque music on Sunday afternoon, January 31. **Forty-six** accomplished students representing **seventeen** teaching studios performed a variety of works from the era. We were graced by the talent and knowledge of our adjudicators, Dr. Jill Timmons and Patricia Scordato.

There were nine students chosen to advance to the Regional recital, which will take place on February 14 in Corvallis. Those chosen are as follows:

Category I (piano)	Claire Luan Wells	student of Christine Mirabella
Category I (violin)	Claire Luan Wells	student of Cheryl Luan
Category II (piano)	Ellwood Zwovic Corina MacWilliams	student of Winifred Kerner student of Christine Mirabella
Alternate:	Jackson DiChiara	student of Christy Matheson
Category III (piano)	Sophia Gossard Sujin Kay	student of Christy Matheson student of Genevieve Mason
Alternate:	Christina Lu	student of Lucy Clevenger
Category IV (piano)	Weston Young Mira Howard Mitchell Young	student of Virginia Buhn student of Lucy Clevenger student of Virginia Buhn
Alternate:	Alex Crider-Phillips	student of Delores Tiktin

Congratulations to all the students who will advance to Regional, and special kudos to all participating students and teachers. Our adjudicators were impressed by the students' preparation and attention to detail, but they mentioned especially the degree of musicality demonstrated by our talented performers.

I add my thanks to Patricia Morse, event chair for organizing paperwork and schedules and to Wyatt Burger for designing and printing the programs. Also, I extend my gratitude to the teachers who helped with the tasks during the recitals.

Respectfully submitted,

Fern McArthur

Recording Secretary's Report

MINUTES OF THE JANUARY MEETING

Monday, January 11, 2010

The Home of Sandy Hull

Meeting called to order at 9:45 AM by President Carolyn McHan. 17 teachers in attendance.

We began with a discussion about our December Potluck. There were only 10 attendees, and the question was raised if it would be easier for people to attend if the meeting took place on a Sunday evening (instead of Monday when many are teaching). A majority of members voted "Yes".

Treasurer's Report:

We began the month of December with a checking account balance of \$1347.33. Income for the month totaled \$1869.06. Expenses for the month totaled \$940.98. Our balance was \$2275.41.

District Committee Reports

Librarian (Marti Csonka)

Sandy has copied Christine's Successful Teaching Strategies lecture to DVD. A past lecture from Lea Mirabella (from 2000) is now available on DVD. Other past presentations are becoming available as Sandy works through them. A list of library resources is available on our website. Some materials need to be updated on the site, and more items are coming!

Public Relations:

Our Eugene District OMTA banner is finished and looks wonderful. Special thanks to Janie Kaminski for all her work to make this happen.

Development:

Carol reported that the Chambers Family Foundation has donated another \$500.

Barnes & Noble Report (Mary Ellen Yost):

Very successful in terms of teacher and student participation (22 teachers involved with very positive feedback). However, sales were down and expenses rose from previous years. Gross earnings were \$700.06, with expenses at \$440, netting us \$260.06. Piano rental doubled, and working with B&N was more frustrating this year. Mary Ellen has resigned from her position as chair for this event as a result.

Many thanks to Mary Ellen for her hard work on this event. She has suggested that we view this event more as a performance opportunity in the future, as opposed to an event to boost our funds.

continued on page four

Recording Secretary's Report...*continued from page three*

Student Activities

Composition Workshop (Neil Patton):

The deadline to register for the Composition Workshop (Jan 17) is today (Jan 11). No registered students as of this morning.

Junior Bach Festival (Pat Morse):

Cascade manor will be the location. Forms are due today.

Pat will be doing the background work, but still needs help with adjudicator (Fern has agreed to this role) and announcing.

Beverly Soule Scholarship (Ellen McQuilken)

Deadline for competition registration is April 10

Students must prepare three pieces from three style periods. Memorization is required. This will take place during Syllabus week, hopefully using one of the Syllabus adjudicators.

Spring Theme Festival (Marti Csonka):

This will take place March 14 and will feature music from the Romantic and Classical periods. Deadline for registration is February 27. Fee is \$7.00. This will take place at the Wildish Theater. Students should be at Syllabus Level II or higher.

Spring Syllabus (Lucy Clevenger):

Time Requests are due Monday, Feb 8. Dates for Syllabus are May 13-16.

Old Business:

Membership (Delores Tiktin):

Lyndsay Magnuson has rejoined. Wyatt to be notified regarding the directory.

New Business

Question re: Scholarships for needy students. Good discussion followed. Music Link? Scholarships? No help? Some thoughts given regarding taking each situation on a case-by-case basis. Some teachers offer a "pay-what-you-can plan depending on the character, efforts and attitude of the students and families in question. Some do this but require the family to catch up later when hard times improve. Some reduce the number of lessons given each month.

Crystal Zimmerman will be giving a recital in May. Date and info to come.

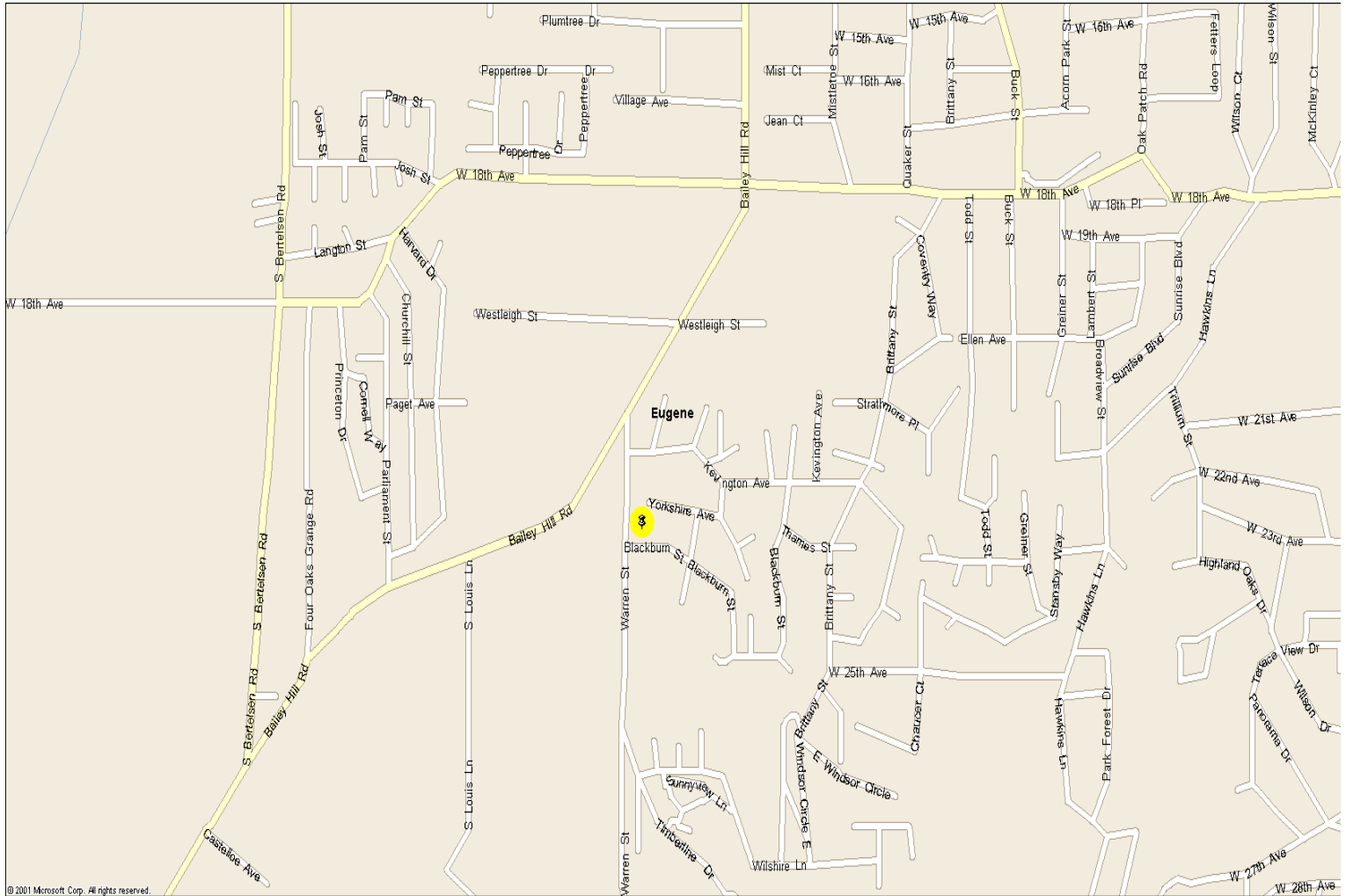
Announcements:

Fern's mother had cardiac arrest last week. In rehab. Fern will still help with the Junior Bach Festival.

Meeting ended at 10:20. We then enjoyed an excellent presentation by our own Sandy Hull entitled: *Teaching Aids for the 21st Century*.

Respectfully Submitted by Neil Patton, Recording Secretary.

February meeting location: home of Nancy Harris, 2283 Warren Street



Beverly Soule Scholarship 2010

Looking for a way to motivate your high school seniors?

The first **Beverly Soule Memorial Scholarship** auditions will be held during the weekend of May 14-16 this Spring. This scholarship award competition is open to high school seniors, whether or not the applicant plans to continue music studies after graduation.

Students are required to perform from memory three pieces representing three of the five style periods, Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Impressionist, and Contemporary; total time not to exceed 20 minutes. One award of \$250 will be given, with Honorable Mention(s) also selected. The winner will be invited to the OMTA meeting in June to perform and receive the award.

To enter, submit the complete entry form (on page 41 of the Yearbook) along with the application fee of \$10 to Ellen McQuilkin, 4895 Donald St., Eugene, OR 97405, postmarked no later than April 10, 2010.

Reminder from the Treasurer...

When submitting funds to the treasurer for deposit, please use the **OMTA Remittance Form**. When requesting funds for payment of expenses, or for payment to adjudicators, etc. please use the **OMTA Billing Form**. Both forms are available at the OMTA website.

Snapshot

David Servias

David moved to Eugene this summer so that his wife, Lauren, could begin her graduate studies in Collaborative Piano at the University of Oregon. David is quickly becoming established in the music communities at both the University of Oregon and also Oregon State University. He is now teaching several sections of class piano at OSU and playing for voice lessons and juries. In an upcoming performance, David is collaborating with OSU piano faculty member Becky Jeffers, playing Brahms Hungarian Dances, arranged for four hands. David has found opportunities to work with singers and instrumentalists at the University of Oregon, playing in the voice studio of Milagro Vargas among others.

David's private teaching studio is also taking off. He teaches out of his home in the Bethel area of Eugene, and has several students coming to him for weekly lessons. David loves teaching students of all ages, but lately he has developed a strong interest in the art of teaching beginning and intermediate students—both children and adults. As a graduate teaching assistant for the last four years at the University of Washington, David had the pleasure of working with many accomplished pianists. It is through this experience that David has come to appreciate the importance of excellent training at the beginning and intermediate levels, where the groundwork for advanced piano playing and musicianship is established.

This year David will finish his Doctor of Musical Arts Degree from the University of Washington. He is currently in the final stages of finishing the degree. For his dissertation, David is developing an original curriculum for class piano that focuses on developing an increased perception of harmony and tonal relationships in music, which is proving to be a very interesting project. The DMA program has been very valuable, and he is glad to have had the experience. David feels fortunate to have the opportunity to study with Robin McCabe, an outstanding teacher, musician and mentor.

When not working towards finishing his dissertation, David enjoys listening and playing all types of music, sight reading and improvising for pleasure, playing and listening to jazz, cooking, reading, walking, watching movies, brewing beer (a new hobby!) and learning new things.

Composition Workshop

The Composition Workshop was held on Sunday, January 17, 2010 at 2:00 PM at Upstart Crow Studios in Eugene. The Presenters for this workshop were Neil Patton teaching Harmony, Carol White teaching Melody and Eularee Smith teaching Notation Basics. Packets were handed out to the students and they were divided into groups of Beginners and Intermediate based on their Syllabus Level, theory knowledge and composition experience.

The workshop was a three hour event where students rotated through the three 50 minute workshops. Levels were addressed by the student groups. There were two Intermediate groups and one Beginning group. A reception finished off the workshop with students to be able to speak with the teachers and share ideas.

Total number of students - 26. Sixteen Intermediate and 10 beginners. Total number of teachers: 7.

There are extra packets available for \$5 each. If you would like to purchase a packet, send a check, payable to Eugene OMTA, and send it to Eularee Smith, 56 Marion Lane, Eugene, OR 97404.

Eularee Smith

Composition Workshop

March 8, 2010 Meeting

at the home of *Fern McArthur*, 2128 Elysium Ave., Eugene

PROGRAM: "The Beauty of Bach"

Guest Speaker: *Mary Ann Guenther*

President's Message

Dear Colleagues,

Our district's New Year enthusiastically started off before we hardly had time to catch our breath. Thanks to Eularee Smith, Carol White and Neil Patton for pulling off another top quality Composition Workshop on January 17. We are very grateful to Eularee for developing this new event last year and hosting it in her Upstart Crow facility. It has proven to be so beneficial that we hope it continues on a yearly basis.

Pat Morse has skillfully finished organizing, and Wyatt Burger designing, the programs for the Junior Bach Festival. Fern McArthur will lend her expertise to the finishing organizational touches for the January 31 recital at Cascade Manor. Claire has arranged for adjudicators from Portland. The program looks exciting.

Sandy Hull brought us a delightful and informative presentation on ways to incorporate technology along with conventional lessons at our January 11 meeting. (Everyone realized that a lot of time and energy was expended to come up with such a wealth of information, great handouts, stacks of suggested books and get a house in readiness). Three cheers, Sandy from your grateful colleagues.

This is the year for election of officers. Delores Tiktin is serving as chair of the nominating committee along with Jane Young and Sandy Hull. Please contact one of them with any suggestions. A report will be submitted at our March meeting and voting will take place at our April meeting. According to the Bylaws new officers will begin their term of office at the June meeting.

The Chambers Family Foundation gave us cause for rejoicing during the Christmas season with a grant to help with the expense of student performance facilities. We are grateful for the generosity of community organizations who value the arts and give tangible support with financial help.

My personal thanks to each of you who continue to generously give of your time and expertise to keep our district vibrant and progressive. You are terrific! Your willing help is most appreciated!

I look forward to seeing many of you at our February meeting.

Musically yours,

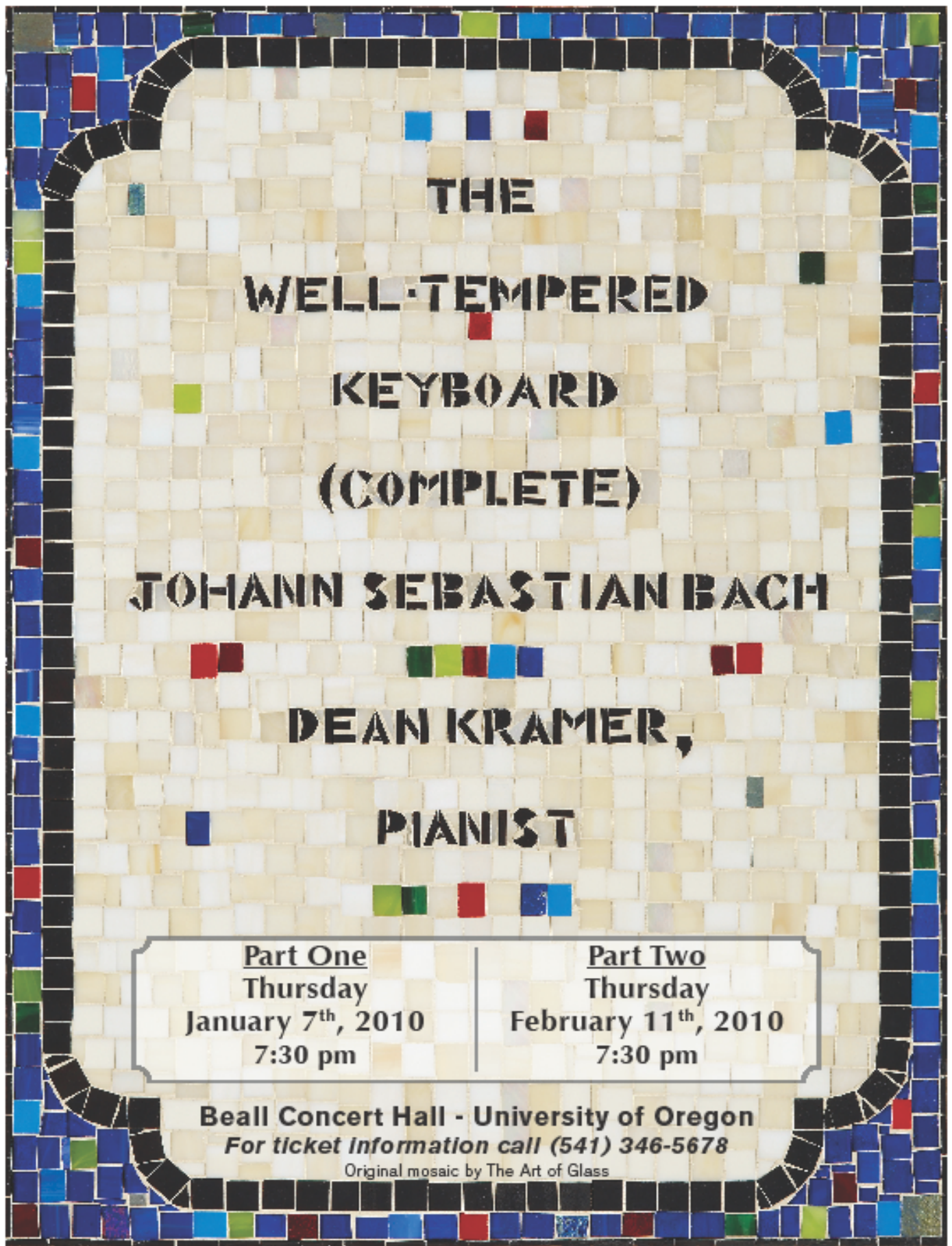
Carolyn McHan

Don't miss reading the January-February issue of **Music News** online at the OMTA website!

The current issue contains important information about the 2010 OMTA Conference, scheduled for July 22-25 at LaSells Center, Oregon State University, Corvallis. Also, you can read about the MTNA/OMTA competition results, district reports, certification updates, and much more!

Submit photos to CON BRIO!

Now that *Con Brio* is published and available at our district website, submissions may include photos of presenters, new members; photos of our activities, etc. All you need to do is send an email with both your article and photo as attachments. (Please remember that publication of photos of students may require permission forms be completed by parents.)



**THE
WELL-TEMPERED
KEYBOARD
(COMPLETE)**

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH

**DEAN KRAMER,
PIANIST**

Part One
Thursday
January 7th, 2010
7:30 pm

Part Two
Thursday
February 11th, 2010
7:30 pm

Beall Concert Hall - University of Oregon
For ticket information call (541) 346-5678

Original mosaic by The Art of Glass