



Editor's [Half] Notes

Dear Teachers and Colleagues,

I sat across from my friend at Hawaiian Time as we caught up over chicken and the ever-so-healthy macaroni salad my expanding waistline did not really need. We are both professional musicians, so we had much to talk about. However, his tone suddenly changed, and I knew what he was going to say before he said it. "Nick wants to stop lessons after the January recital." My heart sank. His 15 year old son is one of my more promising students, but he also suffers from the desire to be perfect immediately, and performing makes him sick to his stomach. Having a pianist for a father makes it even more difficult.

The decision made sense, when all was explained, but I hid the panic I felt in my gut. One other intermediate student is also planning to leave after the recital. The hole in my income might be hard to fill. I also felt that I had somehow failed to keep lessons interesting enough, or maybe I had pressed too hard, or maybe there was something else I had done wrong. However, I was encouraged to hear that Nick wanted to pursue another instrument, perhaps one his dad didn't play.

And that's when I felt a kind of peace, as I realized the foundation I had laid for him musically would allow him to pick up almost any other instrument with ease. Perhaps my particular work was done, and he was ready to move on to something that made him light up inside, the way I did when I discovered the kind of music that lit up my own world when I was his age. There will always be more students out there.

Be encouraged. Love your students well. Keep making music together!

Sincerely
Neil Patton
Con Brio Editor

Con Brio **January 2016**

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

President: David Cragun, Vice-President: Genevieve Mason, Treasurer: Wyatt Burger,
Corresponding Sec: Fern McArthur, Recording Sec: Neil Patton, Past President: Delores Tiktin
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 Meeting

Our first meeting of the year will be in one week at the home of Christine Mirabella, on 4722 Fox Hollow, Eugene 97405. Here are Christine recommendations about parking : "I can handle 4 - 5 cars in my driveway, so those who need to be close can park here. Otherwise, park 1/2 block up on Princess St. or at the church on 46th St. and walk up the steps on my driveway. Flat heeled shoes are recommended."

We will meet at 9:00 for refreshments followed by our business meeting at 9:30.

At 10:30. Sandy Holder and Wyatt Burger will lead a teacher forum. First they will share with us their experience with teaching adults students, then questions and discussion will follow.

Thanks, Sandy, thanks Wyatt!

I hope to see many of you there!
Happy New Year,

Genevieve
Eugene OMTA Vice President

Treasurer's Report

12/01/2015 to 01/01/2016

CHECKING ACCOUNT

DATE	DESCRIPTION	INCOME	EXPENSE	BALANCE
12/01/15	BEGINNING BALANCE			\$ 4,126.42
12/05/15	Library		28.35	
12/07/15	Membership Dues	25.00		
12/10/15	PEAK Internet		14.97	
01/01/16	TOTALS	\$ 25.00	\$ 43.32	\$ 4,108.10

Respectfully submitted,

Wyatt L. Burger

OMTA Eugene District Treasurer

The deadline for submitting articles and announcements for the February 2016 issue of Con Brio is Sunday, January 31, 2015.

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 Composition Festival

*Deadline for composition entries is **Monday, March 14, 2016!***

Have your students been improvising or tinkering with composition ideas over the winter holidays? A unit on composition to start 2016 might be just the inspiration some of those dreamy students need to regain momentum. It'd be fun to take one of the pieces they love to play and compose their own in the same style. Or use the Piano Explorer composition competition theme, "bugs", to generate some ideas.

I am looking forward to collecting entries at the March 14 meeting. Students should notate his/her own composition either by hand or with a computer program. There is no need to submit a recording of the work unless it is for instrument(s) other than piano.

Please see the district website for a complete event description. The required fees, and additional information will be posted there on an updated entry form. Student composers will be invited to perform in a special recital on Friday, April 8, place and time to be announced.

Ellen McQuilkin

District Composition Celebration Chair

Reach the World Right Where You Are – Become a Host Family!

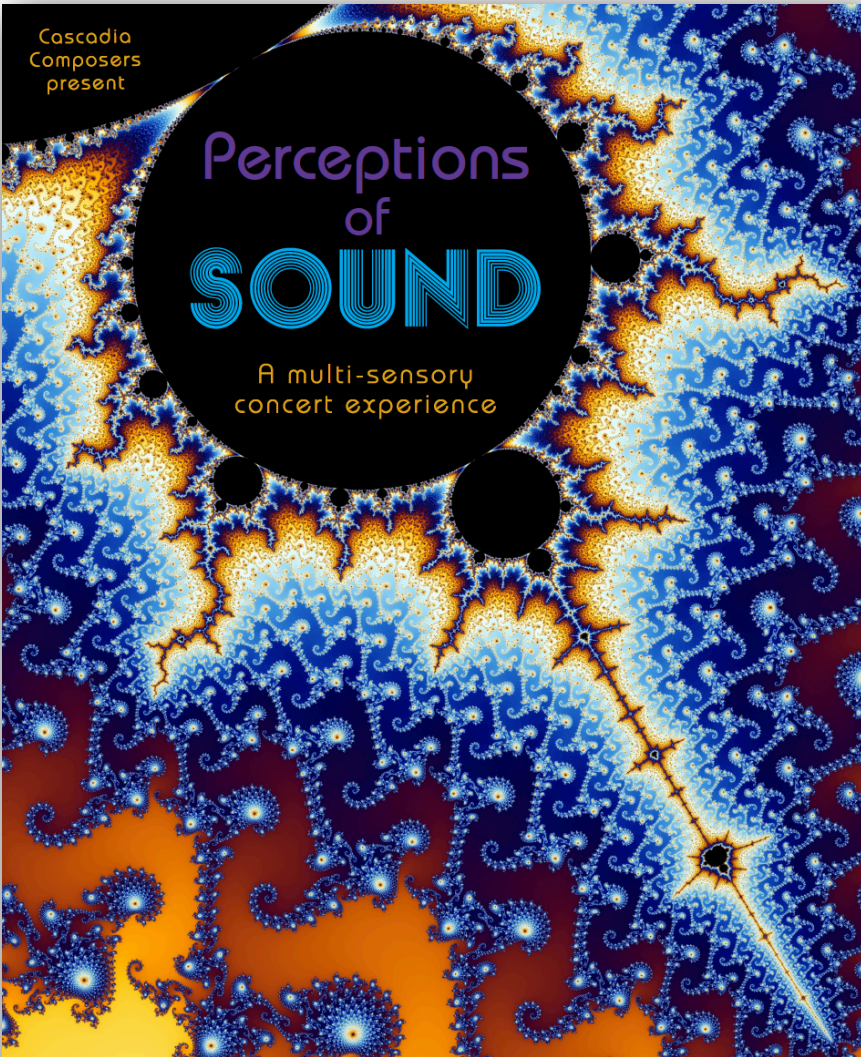
- What:** Hosting Chinese middle/high school students participating in the 2016 Winter University of Oregon Music/English Camps
- When:** January 24-30, 2016
- Note:** The host family provides transportation, breakfast and dinner on weekdays; 3 meals a day on the weekend and occasional sack lunches. Students may share a room but must have their own bed. Host families are strongly encouraged to take 2 students.
- Stipend*:** \$110/person for 6 nights, or \$220 for 2 people
*Stipend should cover expenses for meals, transportation, laundry and all activities. The number of days may vary slightly due to travel arrangements; stipend will be prorated accordingly.
- Website:** <http://www.gpyinternational.org/hostfamily.html>
- Contact:** 541.517.5915 luannlangford@gpyinternational.org

**Cascadia Composers proudly presents:
 "Perceptions of Sound", a Cascadia and Friends production**

Saturday, January 30th, 2016 at 7:30 p.m.

**Tickets available at the door: \$20 general admission
 \$10 seniors and working artists and \$5 students**

**First Christian Church
 1166 Oak St. Eugene, Oregon 97401**



Cascadia Composers present

**Perceptions
 of
 SOUND**

A multi-sensory
 concert experience

SCIENCE, SYNESTHESIA & SPECIAL EFFECTS:
 melding new art music with modern performance to expand the experience of sound

Works by Susan Alexander · Daniel Brugh · Ted Clifford · Lisa Ann Marsh · Paul Safar
 Alexander Schwarzkopf · Brandon Stewart · Jeff Winslow · Jennifer Wright · Nicholas Vandell
special guests Delgani String Quartet & John Berendzen's Robohorn

7:30 PM SATURDAY JAN. 30, 2016

Cascadia Composers
 a chapter of the National Association of Composers USA

First Christian Church
 1166 Oak St., Eugene, OR 97401
 CascadiaComposers.org Tickets \$5 - \$20 at the door

This concert, which will feature Eugene OMTA members Alexander Schwarzkof and Paul Safar, as well as Portland OMTA member Daniel Brugh, will challenge the ears with a variety of works that take advantage of the unique acoustic properties of the First Christian Church's parabolic dome. Many pieces will be presented in low lighting for the listener to immerse themselves in sound, sometimes from various corners of the space. Dance, video, electro acoustic and other multimedia collaborative works will be on the program. The program will showcase pianist Alexander Schwarzkof, soprano Nancy Wood and percussionist Todd Bills among many Eugene musicians. Composers represented include Eugene's Paul Safar and Portland's Daniel Brugh, Jeff Winslow and Lisa March. Jennifer Wright will electrify us with amplified harpsichord and John Beredzen will usher in the concert with his one of a kind instrument "the Robohorn".

Get ready for this new genre bending multi media experience set in the unique space of First Christian Church in Eugene. CASCADIA COMPOSERS is a non-profit membership chapter of NACUSA (National Association of Composers USA) based in Portland Oregon and dedicated to the promotion and support of regional composers. Cascadia has produced concerts, workshops, and presentations promoting new classical music by Northwest composers for eight years.