



Affiliated with the Music Teachers' National Association, Inc.

Opus 272

June 2016

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Editor's [Half] Notes

Dear Teachers and Colleagues,

'Tis the season of final recitals, and with these comes the season of saying goodbye to some students. If I'm honest, I'll admit that some of these goodbyes can be a relief. Others are perhaps more difficult.

During this past Sunday's recitals, I said goodbye to a graduating high school senior that has been in my studio since she was eight years old. Before that, I taught two of her older siblings. I've been involved with this family for perhaps 13 years, and not just with music. One family member went through a season of depression, once ending up on my doorstep at 2:00 in the morning with suicidal thoughts. I have broken bread in their home, delivered my kids there for babysitting, held practice recitals in their living room, and had long conversations about the challenges of parenting with their parents. I have laughed so much with these students, and shared life with them, not just music.

And this has made the music all the more rich and real. My studio won't be the same, somehow.

Of course, now there are grandkids appearing, so, who knows?

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

(And get some rest this Summer. You've earned it!)

Sincerely

Neil Patton

Con Brio Editor

June Potluck

On June 13, at 7:00, we will have our end of the year OMTA potluck. It will be at the house of Christine Mirabella, on 4722 Fox Hollow, Eugene 97405. We will eat together whatever all of us will bring (ready to cook ?), and then later Asia Wooten, the student of Michael Seregov who won the Soule scholarship, will perform for us.

About parking: The driveway of the house can handle 4-5 cars, 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 the house's driveway.

Con Brio

June 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



CHECKING ACCOUNT ACTIVITY

May 1-31, 2016



DATE	DESCRIPTION	DEBIT	CREDIT	BALANCE
05/01/2016	Beginning Balance			\$ 5,083.70
04/10/2016	PEAK Internet	\$ 14.97		
05/10/2016	PEAK Internet	\$ 14.97		
05/10/2016	Elizabeth Willis—Soule Scholarship adjudicator	41.00		
05/10/2016	Transfer from savings to checking		41.00	
05/10/2016	Valley River Inn brunch		\$ 308.00	
05/10/2016	Vice-President misc. expenses	\$ 111.16		
05/26/2016	Corresponding Secretary misc. expenses	\$ 120.00		
05/31/2016	TOTALS	\$ 302.10	\$ 349.00	\$ 5,130.60

Respectfully submitted,

Wyatt L. Burger

OMTA-Eugene District Treasurer



The deadline for submitting articles and announcements for the September 2016 issue of Con Brio is Sunday, August 28, 2016.

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 Celebration

Our district Composition Celebration recital was held on Friday, April 8, 2016 at the Unity of the Valley church. It was the first OMTA recital in this warm and welcoming venue. Our adjudicator, Michael Seregow, spoke briefly before the concert. He congratulated students and inspired them by explaining and demonstrating ideas for improvisation.

This year's festival included a total of 22 students and 4 teachers. Of those, 16 performed at the recital or had a proxy perform their composition. In addition, we hosted one guest student from Central Oregon District, who traveled over the mountains to play. The students whose compositions were selected for the state composition recital on May 21, 2016 are:

College Division: **Sam Kohler**, student of Paul Safar

Senior High Division: **Kyle Jensen**, student of Susane Davis

Junior High Division: **Faith Piowaty** (Susane Davis) and **Grace Miedziak**
(for Central Oregon District; teacher, Larry Rausch)

Elementary Division: **Anna Staruch** and **Francis Anderson-Blankenship**, students of Paul Safar;
Asher McKinnon, student of David Cragun

Primary Division: **Rory Young** and **Charlotte Bailey**, students of Alexis Gibbons

As always, it was a pleasure to hear the originality and heart our students are putting into their music. Thank you, teachers, for the creativity and dedication you inspire in your students.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen McQuilkin

District Composition Celebration Chair

Teacher Referrals

Over the past year I provided teacher referrals to 43 families. Sources of the referrals were:

Our website - 30

OMTA teachers - 13

Pacific Winds - 2

This year, 13 referrals came via our own members referring families to me. Thanks to all of you who helped potential students connect with another OMTA teacher. I am always happy to give students several options of good teachers if you are not able to accommodate them in your studio.

Nine more families contacted me through our website than last year, so at least some searches are turning up our website. Students also are finding their teacher through our website's Teacher Directory. Make sure you are included in the Teacher Directory if you want more students.

If you have any updates about your teaching to help me match a student to you, please feel free to contact me.

Jane Young

Teacher Referrals Chair