



Affiliated with the Music Teachers' National Association, Inc.

Opus 276

December 2016

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Editor's [Half] Notes

Dear Teachers and Colleagues,

My wife, Cathy performs with her flute in a new trio here in town. They are starting to get performance experience and on-the-job preparation by playing some retirement homes around town. This past Sunday they had just such a gig.

All went well, with an attentive audience and many friendly faces. As they were putting away their instruments after the performance, one elderly audience member approached them slowly and carefully. She took my wife by the arm and expressed how much the music meant to her. It was then that Cathy realized this woman was blind.

She told the trio how she had been a professional singer years ago. Since she can't read music anymore, she now relies on her memory and history to recall the music that she holds so dear to her heart. There was a spiritual connection between these women as they listened to her stories. They left that retirement home with a slightly bigger picture of the world.

You never know how the music you share will touch the lives around you. You might never know who will be encouraged in their loneliness. Don't stop playing, and don't stop teaching others to play.

Be encouraged. Love your students well. Keep making music together! (And Happy Holidays!)

Sincerely
Neil Patton
Con Brio Editor

Con Brio

December 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: Laura DuBois, Treasurer: Wyatt Burger,
Corresponding Sec: Alexis Gibbons, Recording Sec: Nick Rieser, 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

The deadline for submitting articles and announcements for the January 2017 issue of Con Brio is Sunday, January 1, 2017.

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.

December Meeting

Hello, OMTA!

I hope your holiday season is off to a wonderful start! For the December meeting, we'll be holding our annual Holiday Potluck, with music provided by our members. Lucy Clevenger has graciously offered to host this year - thank you, Lucy!

Here are the details:


- **Date/Time**: Monday, December 12, 2016, 9:00 a.m. We'll start with our business meeting, and follow that with fun!
- **Location**: 3345 Chambers St, Eugene, OR 97405 (directions are on our website)
- **What to bring**: This is a potluck, so you are welcome to bring your favorite dish to share.
- **Musical offerings**: We're looking for people to play during this gathering. Both background music and more formal performances are welcomed and encouraged! Please contact Laura DuBois if you're interested (ladubois@gmail.com).

On a different note, I'd like to thank all the people involved in last month's meeting. We had a record turnout for Susan Kenney's workshop, and her presentation was both delightful and informative. Thank you especially to David Cragun, as he played a large role in bringing Susan to Eugene.

Hope to see you next Monday!


Sincerely,
Laura DuBois
Eugene District Vice President





**Treasurer
Report**

CHECKING ACCOUNT ACTIVITY
November 1 - November 30, 2016



DATE	DESCRIPTION	DEBIT	CREDIT	BALANCE
11/01/2016	Beginning Balance			\$ 2,828.21
11/07/2016	PEAK Internet	\$ 14.97		
11/08/2016	Membership dues		25.00	
11/09/2016	Ensemble Festival	28.17		
11/09/2016	Dr. Alexander Schwarzkopf—Ensemble Festival	41.00		
11/10/2016	OMTA Ensemble Festival		96.00	
11/10/2016	OMTA Ensemble Festival	96.00		
11/21/2016	District Ensemble Festival student fees		220.00	
11/28/2016	N. Rieser—member lunch/meeting refreshments	65.30		
11/29/2016	Susan Kenney presentation	350.00		
11/30/2016	TOTALS	\$ 595.44	\$ 341.00	\$ 2,573.77

Respectfully submitted,

Wyatt L. Burger

OMTA-Eugene District Treasurer

Guidelines for submitting email messages to the Eugene District Membership:

1. Email messaging to the OMTA-Eugene District membership is used to send important information to members between issues of *Con Brio*. Reports, announcements, advertising, etc. that is not urgent should be sent to Neil Patton for publication in the monthly *Con Brio* newsletter.
2. Please write out your email message as you want the membership to read it. I cannot compose, edit, or proof-read your messages.
3. Text and image files should be opened and inserted directly in the body of the message whenever possible. If you are sending an attachment, please convert the file to a .pdf format. Some members may not be able to open other types of files.
4. If your message is not sent out to the membership within 24 hours, please contact me to make sure it was received.
5. Messages are sent via the *MailChimp* online service. Make sure messages you receive are arriving in your inbox and not being marked as spam.

Wyatt Burger OMTA-Eugene District email

Spring Syllabus Request

To the Eugene membership:

At the rate the calendar seems to be flying by this year, Spring Syllabus will be here before we know it. If you are planning to have students in Spring Syllabus, would you please email me with the following information:

1. Approximate number of students participating:
2. Approximate time needed (hours/minutes):
3. Any level 10:
4. First choice day/time preference:
Second choice day/time preference:
5. May we use your home?

Please return to me by **January 10**. I can then notify the State Adjudicator Scheduling Chair to hopefully have enough adjudicators assigned to our District.

Happy Holidays!

Carol

Carol White, NCTM

Piano Studio

carolsstudio1@me.com 541-953-2307

Beverly Soule Scholarship Fundraiser Recital

Saturday, May 13, 2017 at 3:00 PM Unity of the Valley

I would like to answer some of the questions I have received about this recital:

What style of music would be appropriate? Any of the musical styles that correspond to OMTA events: serious music literature from any style period; popular, jazz, ragtime, novelty, character pieces, original compositions and improvisations. The emphasis should be on variety. Select music you are comfortable performing.

How much performance time will be available to each participant? If we have approximately 15 teachers performing, then 5 to 7 minutes per teacher would be appropriate. This should accommodate one selection, or two or more short, contrasting works.

What about those who would like to participate, but do not feel comfortable performing a solo? Team up with a colleague for a 4-hand duet, or other ensemble. It would be ideal to include voice, violin, and other instruments in addition to piano.

Can we perform a duet with a student? Let's keep this a recital for teachers. The exception would be an individual or members of an ensemble you regularly perform with. (The Ensemble Recital would be best for student-teacher duets.)

Now is the time to begin selecting music for this recital. Choose music you believe your students would enjoy hearing, and you feel most comfortable performing. Be brave! Laura and I are always available to answer your questions about this event. Happy practicing!

Laura DuBois and Wyatt Burger
Fundraiser Recital Co-Chairs