



## Letter from the President, Tamara Bertram

Dear North Dakota Music Teachers,  
Thanksgiving week is upon us. For many of us, this time of year may mean travel to visit with family and friends; enjoying traditional holiday foods like turkey, cranberries, stuffing and mashed potatoes; reflecting on the people and things for which we are grateful; and cheering on our favorite football teams or listening to our favorite music.



During this season of gratitude, I want to encourage each of us to remember the wonderful sense of community that we build within our studios. The families we serve really appreciate the gift of music we are helping our students to cultivate and develop. Thank you for believing in your students and inspiring them to be the best that they can be. Thank you for devoting time to being organized and ready to teach lessons with enthusiasm and wisdom. Thank you for being mentors to your students and for transmitting a love of learning and love for music.

May your Thanksgiving be musical, joyful and blessed.

Tamara Bertram

President, NDMTA

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It's not too early  
to start preparations for

**June 2023**

**See NDMTA Handbook  
for rules**



## Competitions Report

*By Sue Nagel, Competition Chair*

ND MTNA Competition for Young Artist Piano was held Saturday, October 22 in the beautiful new Center for the Performing Arts at VCSU. Dr. Jay Hershberger from Concorida College adjudicated three pianists performing pieces by Bach, Beethoven, Schumann, Prokofiev, and Ravel.

### Young Artist Piano

Winner

- Zhouha Yang (middle), NDSU, student of Tyler Wottrich

Alternate

- Kevin Vandal (right), Minot State University, student of Dianna Anderson

Honorable Mention

- Lydia Watkins (left), VCSU, student of Oswald Johnson



In addition, ND will be sending representatives in Junior composition and woodwinds, Senior strings and woodwinds, and Young Artist woodwinds to the Division Competition:

JR Composition ~ Vedant Srivastava

JR Wind ~ Enoch-Adeogo Orukotan

SR Strings ~ Gabe Sagini

SR Woodwinds ~ Katelyn Albers

YA Wind ~ Danica Rumney



*Jay Hershberger, adjudicator and Zhouha Yang, YA Piano Winner*

### **Upcoming Events**

2022 WCD Competitions

December

2023 MTNA Conference

March 25-29

2023 Popplers Music Competition

June

2023 NDMTA Conference

June

Video Performances

Reno, NV

Dickinson, ND

Dickinson, ND

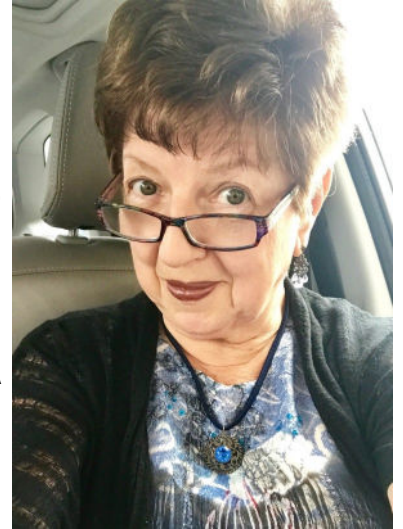
## News from your NDMTA Foundation

*By Dianna Anderson, Foundation Chair*

### **NDMTA Foundation Fellow Nominee for 2023... Darla Sheldon!**

Darla was raised in a musical family in rural Bowden, ND where her love of music began at an early age. She began her teaching career after graduating from Valley City State University in 1967 with a BS Degree/ Composite Major in Music. She taught instrumental and vocal music grades 1-12 in North Dakota Schools. She has taught private piano for over 40 years!

Darla is an NDMTA certified teacher of music and was awarded the NDMTA Teacher of the year in 2012. She has served on the NDMTA state board as well as the UVMTA board. She retired to Fargo, ND in 2014 where she is an FMMTA member and presently serves on their board of directors.



Darla has dedicated her life to furthering Arts and Education in schools in several ND/MN communities. She has composed vocal/instrumental arrangements for special groups her entire career. She served on the Board of Directors for the Park Rapids Community Theater and was also musical director and pianist for 12 major summer musical productions.

Darla has done extensive accompanying for her church music worship team, church choir/cantatas, school concerts, music contests, weddings, and funerals. She adjudicates music contests, rallies, talent shows and pageants. Since her move to Fargo, she has been an accompanist for Carl Ben Eielson Middle School, South High School and Davies High School for their music contests and concerts. She finds great joy in working with students of all ages and sharing her love of music and the piano.

Darla has been married to her husband Claude for 56 years and together they raised 3 children and are blessed with 6 grandchildren.

### **As of November 30, \$1,445.00 has been contributed.**

You may give online via the MTNA website (be sure to request your donation to go directly to Darla as Foundation Fellow nominee, or you can mail a check to MTNA. Please be sure to write Darla Sheldon in the memo section of your check).

MTNA website <https://www.mtnafoundation.org/contribute/contribute-now/>

or send your check to:  
Jennifer Thomason  
MTNA Executive Assistant  
600 Vine St Ste 1710  
Cincinnati, OH 45202

## **NDMTA Executive Board Meeting, October 8, 2022**

President Tamara Bertram called the meeting to order. Roll call: Vangie Johnson Parker, Tamara Bertram, Michael Langer, Sue Nagel, Amy Mercer, Di Wu, Sheryl Kjelland.

The agenda was accepted as presented.

### **Officers' Reports:**

Secretary: Minutes from the June 1, 2022 Board Meeting were posted. M/S/C by Vangie Johnson Parker, Amy Mercer to approve the minutes.

Treasurer: Michelle Kallod submitted Treasurer's Report.

Checking account balance \$25,726.85

Savings account balance \$15,173.12

Certificate of Deposit \$10,605.86

Vice-President/Commissioned Composer: Michael Langer reported that he has Lisa Bost-Sandberg, a flute professor at UND, as our 2023 Commissioned Composer. She has accepted and signed at the mtna.org portal.

M/S/C by Vangie Johnson Parker, Sheryl Kjelland to accept, acknowledge and appreciate Michael Langer's work on this process and that we are thrilled to have Lisa Bost-Sandberg as our 2023 Commissioned Composer.

There was some discussion encouraging 2024 and possibly 2025 Commissioned Composer to be proposed, discussed, chosen and approved to loosen the time crunch on this project.

President: Tamara Bertram reported the following:

- She attended the MTNA Summit Meeting and that it was very good.
- She signed contract with Catherine Rollins for 2023 NDMTA Conference.
- She will submit Chris Gables' 2022 Commissioned Composition to MTNA before December 1.
- She is working on setting up the NDMTA Endowment Fund.
- She received the non-profit status for NDMTA through MTNA
- She is continuing the efforts to publicize and encourage the Virtual Local possibility for those members who need it.
- She stated that the Service to the Profession Trophy needs some specifics on it, by adding NDMTA to it, or ????

## **Committees:**

Advertising: Anne Morris has sold \$1,750 in ads. She has received \$1,225 in advertising money and is waiting to receive the remaining \$525. It has been a challenging process this year.

Certification/Service to the Profession: Amy Mercer wondered about dividing this into two positions, but was encouraged to keep it as it is.

Competitions: Sue Nagel reported that the state competition will be held at VCSU on October 22, 2022. There will be 3 YA pianists competing. There are 5 ND representatives (JR Composition, JR Woodwinds, SR Strings, YA Woodwinds, SR Woodwinds) that will submit performance videos, as well as the winning YA Pianist to the District Competition.

Directory: Michelle Schumacher reported that she is working to complete the Directory. There are 17 members who have applied to receive it virtually.

Foundation: Dianna Anderson asks that members donate to Foundation Fellow in honor of Darla Sheldon. We need to name a new person for next year's Foundation Fellow nominee.

Historian: Di Wu is the new historian and she needs information from past Historians.

IMTF: Lisa Schuler stated that Beth Klingenstein will be the IMTF presenter at the 2023 NDMTA Conference.

Membership: Lisa Schuler reported that she attended a WCD membership meeting via zoom. She wants us to encourage memberships.

Newsletter: Due date for articles for the next newsletter is November 15. Please submit any items of interest to Michelle Kallod for the November newsletter.

Nominating: Priscilla Keogh had nothing to report.

Popplers Competition: Tamara Bertram is the new Chair of this event.

Rally: New Rally materials will soon come from Illinois and will be distributed.

Technology: Kathleen Johnson reported that she is adding the NDMTA Directory to the website and is doing other updating.

## **Old Business:**

None

## **New Business:**

Conference 2023 will be in Dickinson.

M/S/C by Vangie Johnson Parker, Michael Langer

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheryl Kjelland

Michelle Kallod, Editor  
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West Fargo, ND 58078



[www.ndmta.org](http://www.ndmta.org)



The MTNA National Conference is in Reno, March 25-29! This conference is a wonderful opportunity to gain new ideas, fresh perspectives, renewed vigor for any piano teacher, regardless how many students you have. It is truly worth the time, money and effort to attend!

More details (including pricing, conference presenters) can be found on the MTNA website, <https://www.mtna.org/Conference>