



NORTH DAKOTA MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

November 2008

A Message from your President:



Dear NDMTA Musicians, Members & Friends,

Snow and the calendar indicate the season of winter has come. Our North Dakota heritage of toughness shines brightly in adversity. The blizzard brings mountains of snow, maybe schools must close, but we clear away the snow after the storm and keep right on doing what needs to be done. I love the strong spirits of these northern plains. My first home state was Oregon. I'm happy to claim North Dakota now as my home state.

Kudos to Sarah Kahl for organizing a fine competition at Valley City State University October 25th. The students played well. Congratulations to the students, their teachers and their parents. Winners are pictured inside this newsletter. Please encourage your students to participate in competitions next year in Valley City. The 2010 competitions will return to part of the October conference that will be in Dickinson.

Looking through the first five months of my presidency, several new board members are serving the state. The November 1st board meeting held by

IVN was a quick two hours. Many thanks to those board members who participated in the process of state business. Motions were made, discussed and passed.

Check over the minutes for information on state business.

Plan now to attend the state conference in Fargo next June. It promises to be an outstanding event with Melody Bober as our guest. Conference requires an abundance of planning. Take full advantage of the opportunity to meet with fellow NDMTA members, participate in the state business and enjoy the Fargo hospitality. Set aside two days just to immerse yourself in the joy of this music teaching profession we have chosen. Conference attendance is inspiring. Come and be inspired. June 11 and 12 need to be blocked onto your June 2009 calendar for the state conference. It will be here before we know. Board members will need to arrive the 10th to attend the board meeting.

Happy holidays to all. May your students practice more than expected and may recitals and programs exceed your hopes. Next newsletter will be in 2009, the new year.

Arlene E. Gray, NDMTA

NDMTA Annual Meeting - Nov. 1, 2008

IVN Meeting

The meeting was called to order and we began with introductions and roll call. Members of the following local chapters were in attendance: Badlands (Dickinson), Bismarck-Mandan, Durum Triangle (Langdon), Fargo-Moorhead, Northwest (Williston), Upper Valley (Grafton/Park River), and Valley City.

Ann DeLorme-Holmen (Upper Valley) motioned that the agenda be accepted as it stood - motion subsequently approved via general consent.

Jeff Dasovick (Badlands) read the minutes. A copy of the minutes will be sent to each member prior to the January meeting. The minutes were approved via general consent.

President's Report (Arlene Gray – Bismarck-Mandan):

Arlene mentioned that she had written thank-you notes to the conferences presenters and facilitators and received a thank-you note from Scott McBride-Smith. She mentioned that she had also begun a journal/scrapbook of her correspondences for her term as president.

The following positions were filled:

Secretary: Jeff Dasovick (Badlands)

Advertising Coordinator: Anne Morris (Fargo-Moorhead)

Newsletter Editor: Jessica Just (Bismarck-Mandan)

Arlene represented North Dakota at the Leadership Summit in Cincinnati, OH on Sept 5-7, 2008

Troy Sterling Nies' manuscripts and recordings were mailed to the national headquarters for Commissioned Composer Award.

There will be no commissioned composer for 2009 as time simply ran out. Contracts are pending for 2010 and 2011. Jeff had mentioned that the Badlands Chapter expressed the possibility of having the 2010 conference, which will be in Dickinson, in either October to coincide with the MTNA Competition or in June or August. It was decided that the conference should be kept in October to coincide with the competition based on a previous decision. Jeff will be in contact with Arlene and Badlands President Colleen Mckirdy to help set the dates of the conference.

Arlene attended the NODAK Competitions in Valley City on Oct. 25th.

Vice President's Report (Sarah Kahl – Fargo-Moorhead):

Sarah organized the NODAK Competitions in Valley City on Oct. 25th.

The winners were announced in each category, although there was some concern due to the low number of entrants.

Treasurer's Report (Jan Herr – Fargo-Moorhead)

Quarter Report (July 1 – Sept. 30, 2008)

Assets: \$26,685.70

Income: \$2453.40

Expenses: \$5708.57

Local Chapter Reports:

FMMTA: The following programs were presented: September "Fun New Ideas for Group Lessons" presented by Melody Bober. October "Understanding Jazz" presented by Simon Rowe. Michelle Heaford and Jan Herr are co-chairing the 2009 state conference

BMMTA: The following programs were presented: "Baroque Dances of the Suites" and the 10th Annual Monster Concert. Future presentations include: Self-Employment Tax Program, Christmas Brunch, Duo Piano Literature, Celtic Harps, Preventing Student Dropouts and Steinway Duets and Solos as well as performances at the Belle Mehus Auditorium, the MTNA Conference in Atlanta, and a performance by the scholarship winner.

Committee Reports:

Advertising: Anne Morris (Fargo-Moorhead):

Ann has sent 59 advertisements to various companies and individuals seeking advertisements for the newsletter. Several responded that they will wait until the regular directory or convention program comes out to buy advertising space. One individual purchased advertising space in the directory supplement and five individuals/companies signed up for advertising space in the newsletter. The amount received for the supplement was \$50.00. The amount received for the newsletter was \$565.00.

Arts Awareness & Advocacy:

It was mentioned that the Association of the Year Deadline is soon approaching.

Certification and Teacher of the Year (Kathleen Johnson – Durum Triangle):

Kathleen mentioned that Gloria Bethke (Grand Forks) and Karen K. Kalinowski (Fargo-Moorhead) have completed their certification for NDMTA and MTNA. Both received a certificate and a certified teacher pin for their accomplishments. A pin was sent to Priscilla Keogh (Badlands) as she had not received one for her prior certification.

Marilynn Moe (Fargo-Moorhead) was presented with the Teacher of the Year Award. Press releases were sent to the Fargo Forum, the Grand Forks Herald, the Grafton Record, and the Cavalier County Republican.

Kathleen mentioned that all press releases of this kind should be sent to the business section of the newspaper and should be concise to ensure they get printed properly.

The issue of the Teacher of Year Award being an every other year versus an every year award was brought up, due to the low number of applications.

Corinne Nustad (Fargo-Moorhead) motioned that the Teacher of the Year Award be given every other year beginning in 2010 so as to fall on even numbered years. Anne DeLorme-Holmen seconded the motion. The motion was brought to a vote and subsequently passed.

College Faculty (Diana Skroch – Valley City):

Diana will be mailing packets to all faculty of North Dakota Music Departments as well as the music departments of Concordia College and Minnesota State Univ. – Moorhead inviting them to join MTNA, detailing the benefits of membership and information on the competitions. The cost of this mailing is approximately \$75.00.

The issue was brought to the table as to the necessity of the College Chair position in recruiting college faculty and students to MTNA. The issue was tabled to allow for Diana to discuss with the membership committee to determine the number of members that this position has attracted over the years.

Directory Editor (Jan Herr – Fargo-Moorhead):

New membership information was collected as well as directory supplement changes. Jan solicited and collected payment for ads for the supplement from local associations and individuals. \$400.00 was collected. The Directory Supplement will be mailed next week. It will include a listing of the Executive Board, Listing from the 2008 conference in Bismarck of the Foundation Fellow, Commissioned Composer, Teacher of the Year, a listing of 25-year members and 14 advertisements.

A new Directory/Handbook Editor needs to be appointed.

Foundation Report (Corinne Nustad – Fargo-Moorhead):

\$785.00 has been collected as of Oct. 1st, the remainder of the monies will be collected for Diana Skroch, the next Foundation Fellow.

State Historian Report (Nancy Harsch – Fargo-Moorhead):

Photos were developed from the State Convention.

IMTF Reports (Sheryl Kjelland – Upper Valley):

Sheryl has contacted a possible speaker for the IMTF conference next spring. Sheryl moved that the NDMTA purchase the 4-DVD set of Recreational Music Making promoting piano study for adults who regret quitting as a child or those who want to start. The videos discuss methodology regarding teaching adult beginners. The motion was seconded by Jan Herr and subsequently the motion passed.

Membership Report (Kathy Bresee – Fargo-Moorhead):

Kathy reported that she had received the updated information from National and updated the data. Information of new members was sent to Jan Herr for publication in the directory supplement. The current membership stands at 146. A large student group from Dickinson joined in the latter part of 2007. The question was raised as to whether there exists in Dickinson a Student Chapter. Jeff will be in contact with

Colleen Mckirdy (Badlands President) to find the answer to this question.

MusicLink Reports (Laura Robinson O'Rourke – Fargo-Moorhead):

Laura reported that there are currently 12 MusicLink teachers in North Dakota, three of whom are new. Laura shared the information from Frederick Harris with 5 teachers thus far. There are currently 15 MusicLink students in North Dakota.

Newsletter Reports (Jessica Just – Bismarck-Mandan):

Photos with dark backgrounds are not encouraged as they do not turn out well. Questions regarding the content of the newsletter should go to Jessica. Questions regarding the distribution of the newsletter should go to Warren Granfor.

Rally/Theory Reports (Sheryl Kjelland):

Sheryl is working on getting the new Rally Tests from Illinois to the rally sites. The question was brought to the table regarding the mileage rate for the judges. Jan Herr said that the current mileage rate was \$0.40/mile.

Technology Reports (Kathy Bresee – Fargo-Moorhead):

Kathy and Arlene have been working with the national headquarters regarding Association in a Box as the NDMTA website format. Arlene mentioned that due to the overwhelming response to "AIB" production was temporarily stopped. NDMTA should receive their copy in the next week.

Composer Commission:

As previously mentioned, there will be no commissioned composer for 2009 due to time constraints. Contracts are pending for the 2010 (Adam Hochstatter – proposed by Michelle Heaford) and 2011 (Mary Leaf).

A motion was brought forth regarding the stipend to be paid to Melody Bober, conference clinician and performer. Typical clinician fees are \$250 per clinic and performer fees generally cost \$100-\$200. Jan Herr is in contact with Alfred Publishing regarding a possible grant to help pay for the cost of Bober's clinic/concert. Jan moved that the NDMTA funds and the stipend from Alfred Publishing not exceed \$1500.00. Michelle Heaford seconded the motion. The motion subsequently passed.

Next meeting will be Jan 24th. Meeting adjourned.

Foundation Report

Corinne Nustad, Foundation Chair



Diana Skroch, Valley City, was named the 2009 Foundation Fellow for NDMTA. We have been in the process of raising \$1,000 so that she can be named our 8th MTNA Foundation Fellow, and receive the award at the MTNA National Conference in March, 2009, in Atlanta, GA. As of October 1st, 2008, we have raised \$785 toward this goal of \$1,000.

Diana is well deserving of this award. In MTNA alone she has served state offices such as State Vice President and Competitions Chair, State Conference Chair, Rally Adjudicator, College Faculty Chair, Newsletter Editor, Foundation Chair, Collegiate Performers Forum Chair, Collegiate Artist Auditions Chair, Competitions Site Chair. In addition, she chaired the 1995 and 2002 NDMTA conventions held in Valley City. For MTNA's West Central Division (CO, IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD), Skroch held a three year term as Coordinator of Junior

Competitions and has completed a second two-year term as Chair of Competitions.

Skroch has also been active in National Guild of Piano Teachers, Nationally Federated Music Clubs, and

has held individual membership in the National Association of Schools of Music and in Music Educator's National Conference, serving as VCSU Student Chapter Advisor. She has held the position of President of the Valley City Area Concert Association from 2002-2005. Currently she is membership chair and VCSU liaison for that organization. She has numerous presentations on pedagogical topics.

Skroch has earned the Ph.D. in Music Education/Piano Pedagogy from the University of Oklahoma; the M.A. in Music from the University of North Dakota; and three B.A. degrees from Valley City State University (Music, Art, and Spanish). Currently she is Professor of Music and Chair of the Division of Fine Arts and Department of Music at Valley City State University, North Dakota.

North Dakota has maintained high rankings for several years in the area of percentage of our members who donate to the Foundation. Let's keep our first place position by continuing our tradition of generosity. If you have not as yet sent a donation, please consider giving \$25 or even \$50 to this worthwhile cause. Contributions may be made through the MTNA website, or sent to: MTNA Foundation, The Carew Tower, 441 Vine St, Ste 3100, Cincinnati, OH 45202-3004. Be sure to put Diana's name on the Memo line if you send in a check.

The MTNA Foundation monies collected go towards Teacher Enrichment Grants, Local Association Grants, State Affiliate Grants, Student Competitions, Collegiate Chapter of the Year Award, American Music Teacher Article of the Year Award, Distinguished composer of the Year Award, Studio Teacher Fellowship Award, and Frances Clark Keyboard Pedagogy Award.

I think you will agree with me that Diana Skroch is a well-deserving foundation fellow, and NDMTA would be proud of her achieving this prestigious award.

Competition Report

Sarah Kahl - Vice President, Competition Chair

MTNA and NODAK competitions were held at Valley City State University in Valley City, ND on Saturday, October 25th. MTNA state representatives are Melanie Due from Grand Forks in the Senior String category (teacher is Dan Scholz from Manitoba, Canada), Hannah Porter from Bismarck in the Young Artist Woodwind category (teacher is Mary Posses from Kansas City, Missouri), Xiao Liang from Dickenson in the Young Artist Piano category (teacher is Priscilla Keogh from Dickenson), and Kaden Ferch from LaMoure in the Junior Composition category (teacher is Eileen Geske from Verona). West Central Division competitions will be held at St. Olaf College in Northfield, MN from January 16th-18th. Come and support our state representatives!

There were twelve participants in the NODAK non-advancing competition this year. The first place elementary piano winner was Jennifer Marsh (Judy England, Fargo) and second place winners were Erik Porter (Diane Eichhorst, Bismarck) and Francine Dong (Gloria Bethke, Grand Forks).



From left to right: Jennifer Marsh, Erik Porter, Francine Dong

The first place junior high piano winner was Elisabeth Sondrol (Karen Okerlund, Fargo), the second place winner was Caleb Faul (David Poffenberger, Bismarck), and two honorable mentions were awarded to Kathleen Marsh (Judy England, Fargo) and Nickolas Gellerman (David Poffenberger, Bismarck).



From left to right: Nickolas Gellerman, Caleb Faul, Elisabeth Sondrol, Kathleen Marsh

Senior high piano winners are first place winner Leo Thorp (Gloria Bethke, Grand Forks) and second place winner Nathan Curry (Diane Eichhorst, Bismarck).



From left to right: Nathan Curry, Leo Thorp

There was one entrant in the Senior High woodwind category and first place was awarded to Leo Thorp, flute (Sharon Boschee, Grand Forks).



Leo Thorp

Thank you to all teachers and students who participated in this year's competition! Congratulations to all winners and their teachers!

1st Quarter Financial Report - *Jan Herr, NDMTA Treasurer*

ASSETS

Checking	\$10,348.92
Savings	\$10,578.55
Gate City Certificate of Deposit	<u>\$ 5,758.23</u>
	\$26,685.70

INCOME

Checking - Interest	\$ 5.56
Savings - Interest	\$ 22.84
Membership from Deferred Account	\$1,115.00
Membership	\$ 780.00
Certification Fee	\$ 20.00
Directory Supplement Ads -	\$ 350.00
Newsletter Ads -	<u>\$ 160.00</u>
Income subtotal	\$2,453.40

EXPENSES

General Board	\$ 84.93
August Newsletter	\$ 14.80
Directory Expenses - postage	\$ 1.34
Advertising Editor Expenses	\$ 44.50
ISMATA: Rally deposit	\$ 50.00
Rally Workbooks	\$ 283.00
Financial Statement -	\$ 230.00
Fund Transfer from Checking to Savings	<u>\$ 5,000.00</u>
SUBTOTAL	\$ 5,708.57

Congratulations to Karen Kalinowski, Wahpeton, who became a North Dakota Certified Teacher of Music and a Nationally Certified Teacher of Music this summer. I asked if she would write an article on how she accomplished this, and she responded with an inspiring journey that everyone should read.
-Kathleen Johnson, Certification Chair

Becoming a Certified Piano Teacher

By Karen Kalinowski, NCTM

I was five years old when my mother began teaching me to play piano. Thus, the piano has been a part of my life for almost 60 years!

I remember playing piano for group singing when in grade school. As a freshman in high school I began teaching piano to young students in my home town of Edmore, ND. In the summer of my junior year of high school, I accompanied 24 performances of Carousel! at Fort Totten Summer Theater. This 'accompanying musicals' love affair has lasted my entire life. I even married the director of my 3rd musical at Fort Totten as soon as we finished the season.

I studied music in college and earned an MS degree in Music Education from MSU in Moorhead, MN. My 16 years of piano teaching came to an end when I accepted an elementary music teaching position in Wahpeton. Upon retiring from 32 years of public school teaching, I decided to pursue piano teaching as a second career. I would be working with students, which I enjoy, but only one or a few at a time, which appealed to me.

Knowing many fine piano teachers who are not certified, I could have started a piano studio without completing the qualifications necessary for certification. As a professional educator and musician, however, I felt strongly that I wanted to be an MTNA nationally certified piano teacher. As an elementary music teacher, I had always attended workshops and classes, and enjoyed learning new things to pass on to my students. I took the same approach to piano teaching and began the task of readying myself for my new career.

Surfing the web for classes on piano teaching, I ran into Beth Klingenstein's VCSU Piano Pedagogy course information. It sounded exactly like what I was looking for. I would learn the various topics pertaining to piano teaching, and also receive guidance concerning the requirements of obtaining MTNA National and State Certification. Wow! It was perfect!

The year long course with Ms. Klingenstein was wonderful and eye opening. I learned so much about my 'new' profession of piano teaching! Besides developing an understanding of the business side of teaching, I created numerous practical documents, such as a studio policy statement, for use in my studio. I absorbed loads of information about various topics such as music history, fingering, new music, technology, summer camps, technique – and much, much more.

By the way, I highly recommend the VCSU course. Ms. Klingenstein was there for me through thick and thin. I looked forward to working on each of the assignments, and eagerly awaited Ms. Klingenstein's comments – constructive criticism, but always in a positive tone. Even though some things were difficult to do, such as video taping myself teaching, I realized that each project I completed enhanced my professionalism.

Now there is a framed certificate that says 'Karen Kalinowski, NCTM' hanging above my piano. I am a Nationally Certified Piano Teacher!

Certification: Where does North Dakota rank?

Kathleen Johnson, NDCTM Certification Chair

As of June 30th, 2008, there were 23,136 paid members of MTNA. Of those paid members 3,311 are MTNA certified which is a total of 14.3%.

In the West Central Division, as of the same date, there were 3,522 paid members of which 576 are MTNA certified for a total of 16.35%.

So where does North Dakota rank in these numbers? We had 161 members as of the above date, with 29 nationally certified for a total of 18%. Our national ranking of members certified was 14th. Rhode Island came in # 1 with 39.1% of their members certified. However, they only have 23 members in their state of which 9 are certified.

To put things in perspective, the lowest states were Connecticut and Hawaii with 8% of their members nationally certified. Most rankings of states were in the teens.

What does this mean for North Dakota? We don't compare unfavorably with other states, but that doesn't mean that mediocre is okay. I am a NDCTM and one of those who has all the course work done for national certification. I just need to get my papers written to send to national. I'm guessing there are others like me out there. As one who is kicking myself in the bottom to get to work on it, I urge the rest of you to just do it also. For those that need the course work for North Dakota and national certification, take Beth Klinginstein's courses offered through VCSU online and read Karen Kalinowski's profile in this newsletter for inspiration.

A good first step is to work on becoming a North Dakota Certified Teacher of Music (NDCTM). This will get you started. The steps are less intimidating than the MTNA certification and you will benefit from the knowledge gained and the pride in working for a professional goal and obtaining it. The members of the certification committee (Lynda Pearson, Ellen Croy, and Kathleen Johnson) are all available to answer questions and encourage you on.

So, let's set our goals! Become inspired to professionalism! Become a North Dakota Certified Teacher of Music and a National Certified Teacher of Music! It is time to just do it!

Kathleen Johnson, NDCTM
(who hopes to have a NCTM after her name by next spring)
Certification Chair



**NORTH DAKOTA FEDERATION
OF MUSIC CLUBS**

For further information please contact:
Lila Gienger, NDFMC President
5300 48 R. Ave. SE
Streeter, North Dakota 58483
lajhg@daktel.com - www.ndfmc.org

Sponsor of the Junior & Adult Federated Music Festivals

West Central Division Dinner

Music Teachers National Association National Conference

Sunday, March 29, 2009 following the WCD Meeting 6:30-8:00 pm

Atlanta's landmark restaurant, **Pittypat's Porch** is known for its traditional southern fare, charming décor and gracious southern hospitality. Please join us!

Pittypat's Porch Southern Dining—one block from the conference hotel

25 International Boulevard Atlanta, Georgia

MENU

Choice of:

_____ **Aunt Pittypat's Fried Chicken**

Three pieces of the best Southern fried bird.

Served with homemade mashed potatoes and gravy

_____ **Twelve Oaks BBQ Ribs**

A full rack of baby-back ribs slathered with Jack Daniels BBQ sauce.

Yankees never made ribs this good!

_____ **Vegetarian option - - Chef's choice**

All entrees are inclusive of:

Aunt Pittypat's Sideboard....Twelve different southern favorites including smokehouse macaroni salad, Cajun yam salad, hoppin' john, sour cream and cucumber salad, spring salad, chicken salad, seafood salad, marinated artichokes, fresh seasonal greens, fresh fruit, and sweet and sour watermelon rinds.

Homemade Cornbread Biscuits, Muffins and Sticky Buns

Coffee, Tea, Soft Drinks, or Milk

Georgia Peach Cobbler--A classic Southern recipe served bubbly hot and topped with Greenwood's cinnamon ice cream made right here in Atlanta!

Prices of include the 8% sales tax and 20% gratuity.

Total cost: \$39.00. Checks payable **to Minnesota Music Teachers Association.**

Send your main course selection, check, name, email address and phone number postmarked by March 10, 2009 to:

Marianne Bryan, NCTM

West Central Division Director-Elect

1230 Stanford Ave.

St. Paul, MN 55105

Contact: mfbyran@usfamily.net

Collegiate Chapters

Submitted by Lisa Schuler, NDMTA Local Associations Chair

As Local Associations Chair, one of my duties is to keep local associations thriving, which in turn keeps membership thriving. As with all organizations, we will thrive by getting younger members involved. I would like to inspire collegiate members to start Collegiate Chapters at their perspective colleges. I would also encourage non-collegiate members to think about what can be done to start these student chapters. College students pursuing majors and minors in music are our future! We need to put around arms around these special people and let them know what NDMTA and MTNA has to offer.

One could get the ball rolling by sending information to all pedagogy students as well as the incoming students. One could invite them to local meetings, state conferences and national conferences. Just one attendance to a conference just might hook them into being life members! Let us see how current NDMTA members can inspire the next generation of NDMTA members. Let's do it by encouraging our college music students.



Popplers
Music, Inc. **1ST**
in America

Let Our Knowledgeable Music Professionals Guide You In All Your Sheet Music Needs.

**1000's of Titles
All Leading Publishers
Same Day Shipping on In-Stock Titles**

**Not Sure?
Try Our 20-Day Approval!**

**Call Toll Free: 1-800-437-1755
United States and Canada**

*Thank you for choosing Popplers Music.
We appreciate it!*

www.poppersmusic.com



"Growing through Giving"

The Biggest Piano Event in the World

All Spring — Enroll Early

**Guild auditions provide milestones
from year to year as measurements of progress**

National Guild of Piano Teachers

Sponsored by the
Largest Organization
of Piano Teachers
in the World



International
Headquarters:
P.O. Box 1807
Austin, TX 78767 U.S.A.

Teachers Division of American College of Musicians
Founded in 1929 by Irl Allison

Audition participation and absence from school
APPROVED BY TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY

I am interested in joining the Piano Guild. Please send me
more information about membership and Guild goals.

- Mr.
- Mrs.
- Miss

(Print or Type Name and Address)

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____



Jerry Schroeder

PROFESSIONAL PIANO TUNER TECHNICIAN ~ SINCE 1970

**All Work
Guaranteed!**

- ✓ Estimates
- ✓ Repairing
- ✓ Rebuilding

6831 Sunnyside Drive
Horace, ND 58047
(701) 282-6007

