



## NORTH DAKOTA MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION



February 2009

Arlene Gray, President

### *A Message from your President:*

Good midwinter to everyone. My reservations are placed for the national conference in Atlanta, GA. Thank you to the state organization providing means for me to travel to the conference. I would not be able to afford the trip otherwise. Attending a conference is stimulating and inspiring. We have the privilege of honoring our past president, Dr. Diana Skroch of Valley City State University who will receive a Foundation Fellow Award. Since Diana's work keeps her on campus, she asked me to accept the award for her. What a privilege. I agreed of course. The son of Eloise Halvorson (our first Foundation Fellow), Don Halvorson, has underwritten the expense of a state gala table. We have seven confirmed attendees for the table. Please confirm your attendance with me so I can know who will fill the remaining five spaces at the table.

Looking into our immediate future, you will find registration materials enclosed to attend our own June, 2009 North Dakota Conference. Believe me, you want to attend this state conference. Melody Bober is nationally recognized and has many great ideas to inspire and uplift you in your teaching. The best part of the state conference: NOT having to choose which workshops to attend. National conference has four to six workshops simultaneously which means you have to choose. The state conference is every bit as uplifting as national conference without the overload of information. Pencil/text the conference dates onto your calendars and make every effort to attend. It is truly worth the effort and expense. You are worthy of this experience. Your students will also be inspired by your renewed enthusiasm.

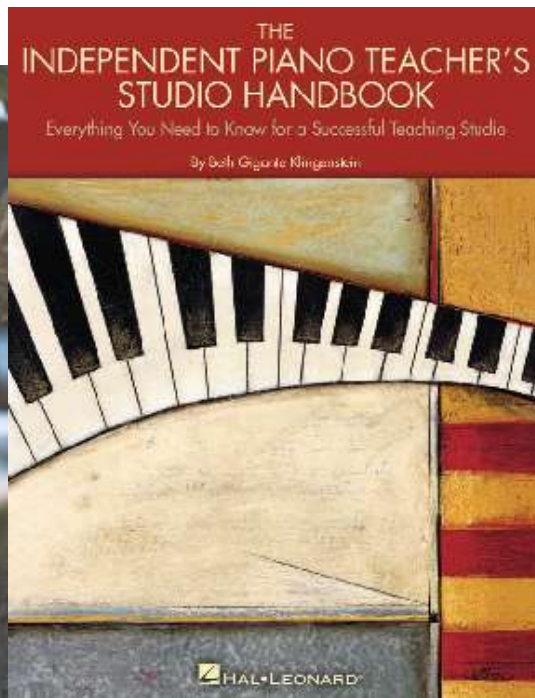
The Association in a Box, our new state website is being drawn and arranged by MTNA. Please check it out and make requests on what your local association wants included. Kathy Bresee is the contact person for ND.

Help! We need a member who is eager to accept the position of directory editor. The job is merely taking the information already assembled by Jan Herr who will help the new editor get started. We need this position filled ASAP. Please let me know if you are interested. I am ready to offer the position to someone. Maybe I should make a contest, offer great reward and have the seventh caller get the prize and the job. As a fact, I do have a nice piano music box that plays, "The Days of Wine and Roses". Seventh caller...☺.

Seriously, please consider your capabilities or those of young members. We need fresh ideas on the board and this editor job is a nice way to be on the NDMTA board. Serving on the board does take time, but it has its rewards. Our recent board meeting minutes are also in this newsletter. Thanks, Jeff!

The request to Tom Gerou to come to Dickinson for the 2010 conference was graciously declined. Clinicians and performing artists for the Dickinson conference will be Forrest and Akiko Kinney of Seattle. Adam Hochstatter of Concordia College accepted the commissioned composer assignment for 2010. We must plan two years in advance to arrange busy professionals to attend our NDMTA Conference. Mary Leaf will be the commissioned composer for 2011 but we need to find clinician and artists for that conference. We welcome suggestions so we have plenty of names from which to draw.

I look forward to sharing ND concerns with MTNA. Pass along ideas this month and I can carry them with me. I will share my Atlanta experience in the May newsletter. May your students always come prepared and enthusiastic to their lessons... *Arlene E Gray, NCTM*



## **Klingenstein Publishes Book on the Profession of Piano Teaching**

North Dakota Music Teachers Association member Beth Gigante Klingenstein has published the second book of her career: *The Independent Piano Teacher's Studio Handbook* (Hal Leonard Corporation, 2009).

Klingenstein was asked to write the book by the keyboard editor at Hal Leonard Corporation, a major music publisher. The book has been a long time in coming; Klingenstein began work on it in January of 2004 and the 452 page book just rolled off the press in January of 2009. Her ambitious intentions are made clear by the size and depth of the book. It covers dozens of business and pedagogy topics, all related to the professional issues faced by independent piano teachers. Examples include national standards, careers in music; developing and maintaining professionalism; establishing lessons; handling finances, legal issues and ethics; presenting recitals; teaching musical skills, music history, and theory; using technology; developing curriculum; serving as an advocate for the arts; obtaining arts funding, and much more.

Understanding that addressing any of these topics could be the content of a complete book, Klingenstein built into her book an in-depth list of resources that readers can use to get more information. Development of these lists required extensive research, but they also add a great deal of value for the reader.

Another unique feature in this book is an appendix that includes sample documents that music teachers need in the independent studio. These documents include a sample studio policy, registration form, interview form, brochures, and many others.

Klingenstein is a faculty member at Valley City State University and has been a member of NDMTA since arriving in North Dakota in 1994. She has served in a number of state offices, including Vice-President and President and is currently working on a Ph.D. in Educational Leadership through the University of North Dakota.

## **Foundation Fellow Report**

**By: Corinne Nustad**

Diana Skroch has officially become our 8<sup>th</sup> MTNA Foundation Fellow, thanks to the generosity of so many NDMTA members who contributed to the Foundation in Diana's name.

The MTNA Foundation's mission is to "advance the value of music study and music making to society and support the professionalism of music teachers". "Established in 1989, the Foundation Fund supports the educational endeavors of MTNA. Each year the Fund provides teacher enrichment, local association and state affiliate grants, in addition to student competition and association awards." (MTNA Foundation brochure, "Working/Giving for a more Musical Tomorrow")

We are honored to have Diana represent NDMTA and MTNA. She has donated much time and energy in many different positions on her local and state associations, and West Central Division Competitions. We thank her for her willingness to promote music education through MTNA, as well as Federation and Guild.

Sincere thanks to those who contributed to the Foundation Fund this year. Our state has been nationally recognized the last several years as having the highest percentage of our members donating, and also being number 5/50 for \$25 or more per person donating. We hope to continue these honors this year and in the future. Anyone who wishes to donate for next year's Foundation Fellow along with their annual dues, may do so but indicating on the memo line of your check that the donation would go towards NDMTA's next Foundation Fellow. Anyone who would have suggestions for 2010 Foundation Fellow can contact any board member, and it will be decided on in June.

Congratulations, Diana! We are so proud to have you represent our state!

### **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.



*“The Well-Balanced Musician:  
Teacher and Student”*

**NDMTA  
2009  
CONFERENCE  
SCHEDULE**

**WEDNESDAY, June 10**

- 5:00 p.m. Certification Examination**  
**6:00 p.m. NDMTA Board Supper Meeting**  
Bethel Family Life Center  
**6:00 – 10:00 p.m. Set up of exhibits**  
Foyer outside Family Life Center

**THURSDAY, June 11**

- 8:00 a.m. Registration and Silent Auction begins**  
Bethel Family Life Center  
**9:00 – 10:00 a.m. Workshop Session #1**  
Melody Bober “The Healthy Musician”  
**10:15 – 10:45 a.m. Break**  
**10:45 – 12 noon Workshop Session #2**  
Melody Bober “Games for All Musical Occasions”  
**12:15 – 1:45 p.m. IMTF Luncheon**  
(Independent Music Teachers Forum)  
Carole Flatau “Why We Do What We Do”  
**2:00 – 3:15 p.m. Session #3**  
**NDMTA Business Meeting**  
President Arlene Gray presiding  
**3:15 – 3:45 p.m. Break**  
**3:45 – 5:00 p.m. Workshop Session #4**  
Melody Bober “Alfred Showcase” highlighting her new music

**This workshop is open to all students and parents you would like to invite. Meet Melody as well as hear her play her new music. Her music will also be on sale.**

- 6:15 – 7:30 p.m. Informal Dinner** (This will be informal instead of our formal banquet)  
**8:00 – 9:15 p.m. “Grand Ole Prairie Performers”** Bethel Worship Center  
Ever hear of Prairie Home Companion or The Grand Ole Opry? Well, this isn’t it, but it is an informal time, so come ready to laugh. Event open to the public. FREE Admission  
**9:30 p.m. Reception**

**FRIDAY, June 12**

- 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. Workshop Session #5**  
PANEL - Karen Okerlund, Corinne Nustad, Sue Nagel and Judy England  
“Nurturing the Well-Balanced Student: Getting to Know Them”  
**10:30 – 12 noon Workshop Session #6**  
Melody Bober – “Fun New Ideas for Group Lessons”

Melody Bober, composer, teacher, and clinician, loves teaching piano and runs a large independent studio. Watching her students develop and assimilate *important musical concepts into their playing gives her tremendous satisfaction.*

As a composer, she enjoys creating motivational piano pieces that foster her students' understanding and love of music.

Melody graduated summa cum laude from the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana with a bachelor's degree in music education. She later received a master of arts degree in piano performance from Minnesota State University, Moorhead. Melody credits much of her success to her influential teachers who include Joel Shapiro and Andrew Froelich (piano), Mary Hoffman (music education), and Tony Caramia (jazz).

An active church pianist and accompanist, Melody has also held the position of church music

director. In addition to teaching piano in her private studio, Melody's music-teaching experience includes 20 years of public school and two years at the university level.

A dynamic clinician and innovative composer, Melody is in great demand at conventions and workshops for piano teachers across North America. She resides in Detroit Lakes, Minnesota with her husband Jeff.

We are so pleased to have Melody as our 2009 NDMTA featured clinician.

**Silent Auction** – **Kathy Bresee** will be covering the Silent Auction for the 2009 NDMTA Conference. We usually take in almost \$350-\$400 for NDMTA and I am hoping that we will do even better this year. Local associations as well as individual members of NDMTA are all encouraged to donate something to the auction. Let's continue to make this a truly fun and profitable fundraising event!

Items should be new, of good quality, and reasonably priced.

Donations can be music items (music, books, CDs), fun items (baskets of chocolate or coffee, ND products), luxury items (jewelry, scarves), or useful items (kitchen towels, table runners, etc.)

You can bring your items to the Bethel Family Life Center first thing on Thursday morning or if you are on the board, Wednesday evening at the Board Meeting. Now is a good time to plan what you will be bringing. All items will be accepted, no matter how small or large. Let's see if we can all bring an item and all bid. See you in June with auction item ready to put on the table.



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### Motel Suggestions Within 3 Miles of Bethel Church

C'Mon Inn – 4338 20<sup>th</sup> Ave. SW  
701-277-9944 or 800-334-1570

Comfort Inn East - 1407 35<sup>th</sup> Street S  
701-280-9666

Country Inn and Suites by Carlson – 3316 13<sup>th</sup>  
Ave. SW  
701-234-0565

Fairfield Inn by Marriott – 3902 9<sup>th</sup> Ave. S.  
701-281-0494

Fargo Staybridge Suites – 4300 20<sup>th</sup> Ave. S.  
701-281-4900

Holiday Inn – 3803 13<sup>th</sup> Ave. S  
701-282-2700

Holiday Inn Express – 1040 40<sup>th</sup> St. SW  
701-282-2000

## **Note Regarding Membership from Kathy Bresee, State Membership Chair**

Membership renewals should be arriving in your mailboxes in late March or early April. It is very convenient to pay your National, State and Local dues with one check. Please take the time to check your information being sure that your address, phone number and email address are correct and send a check off quickly so that your dues aren't forgotten. If you would like to pay by credit card, you can do that easily by going on line to [www.mtna.org](http://www.mtna.org) and first click on Membership, then clicking renew membership and follow the steps. If you have potential new members, it is very easy to become a member by going to the Membership link and clicking new member.

No matter how you renew or become a member, please do check your information, being sure that it is correct. If you do have changes during the year, please let Kathy Bresee (State Membership Chair) know so that our records for each of you are accurate.

### **CAROLE FLATAU, NCTM**

**Presenter at IMTF luncheon during NDMTA June Conference**

Are there days when you feel like you're on automatic pilot, moving in fast-forward without getting anywhere? Why? Are there days when everything clicks and your confidence level is over the top? Why? These are questions Carole will talk about at our IMTF luncheon with her presentation "**Why We Do What We Do.**" She'll remind us about our goals and aspirations, and also about legitimate frustrations. Carole brings a wealth of experience as an independent music teacher. Plan to attend, enjoy the delicious food **AND** learn from "one of our own."

### **IMTF, What is That? (is it painful?)**

**Judy England, NCTM & IMTF Chair**

NO, NO!! It is not painful, it is not a disease, and until a couple weeks ago, I too never remembered what the acronym stood for. Now, as IMTF chair, I've needed to memorize it: The **Independent Music Teacher's Forum**. IMTF exists for YOU the independent music teacher.

**ACTIVITIES:** There is an IMT presentation at every State Conference. Please plan to attend. Topics will be pertinent to your teaching. Carole Flatau, NCTM, will be our presenter this June with "**Why We Do What We Do.**" (Please see information in this newsletter regarding her topic). Carole always presents a down-to-earth, applicable topic with humor, reality and relevant information.

**LIBRARY:** Resources are provided through the IMTF. I have "tubs" of NDMTA library materials that you may check out. Simply contact me and I will mail them to you. A list of available materials is in the handbook/directory on pages 30-31. Contact me at, [jkmengland@yahoo.com](mailto:jkmengland@yahoo.com), or call 218-236-0840.

**National SURVEY:** I have received the following information about a survey conducted by the National IMTF chairperson. Please consider taking a few seconds out of your day to fill it out and either send it to me via e-mail or through the postal service. I would like to have 20 responses by March 10<sup>th</sup>. Mail to Judy England: 5915 14<sup>th</sup> St. North, Moorhead, MN 56560.

Thank you in advance for participating and by doing so, helping myself and the National Chair provide topics of interest to YOU!

(from the National Chair) *I am excited to announce that there will be a special article in the American Music Teacher this year featuring Independent Music Teachers and the most important issues they deal with each day managing an independent music studio. As part of this article, and as part of our IMT Forum meeting in Atlanta at the national conference in March, we will be asking teachers across the country what is most important to them as they manage their music studios.*

*I need your help to contact at least 20 members in your state, during the months of February and March, (deadline, March 15th) Choose your top concerns or needs as listed in the following survey.. You may distribute the survey at local association meetings, collect them afterward and then forward them to me. (Judy England). "Write in" topics are welcome. The more people who reply, the better.*

## ***MTNA 2009 Independent Music Teachers Top Issues Project***

**Pick only 5** of the following aspects of managing your independent music studio that are the **MOST IMPORTANT** to you.

- Money Issues**
- Marketing myself as a music teacher**
- Taxes, records, deductible expenses**
- Financial planning for retirement and life and health insurance**
- Making a living at teaching and setting my fees accordingly**

### **Parent/ Student/ Teacher Relationships**

- Positive communication with parents and students**
- Developing effective studio policies and following through on them**
- Teaching children who are over scheduled in today's society**
- Having access to online resources and education for parents of music students**

### **Community Relations**

- Respect in my community for what I teach and what I know and do**
- Neighborhood Zoning issues**
- Being an advocate for music in my community**
- Working with public school music educators**

### **Education and networking**

- Continuing education**
- Finishing a music degree, certification**
- Being connected to other teachers**
- Continue my own instrumental study**

**Other Issues that are of concern to me:**

## **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:

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#### **Aunt Pittypat's Fried Chicken**

Three pieces of the best Southern fried bird.  
Served with homemade mashed potatoes and gravy

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#### **Twelve Oaks BBQ Ribs**

A full rack of baby-back ribs slathered with Jack Daniels BBQ sauce.  
Yankees never made ribs this good!

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#### **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: [mfbryan@usfamily.net](mailto:mfbryan@usfamily.net)**



# NORTH DAKOTA MUSIC TEACHERS STATE CONFERENCE

*“The Well-Balanced Musician: Teacher and Student”*

June 10-12, 2009  
Bethel Church, Fargo, ND

## REGISTRATION FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone (home) \_\_\_\_\_ (work or cell) \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_ Local Association \_\_\_\_\_

NDMTA Member? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ This is my first ND conference (have never attended)

Certified? \_\_\_\_\_ MTNA certified \_\_\_ ND state certified

### **REGISTRATION FEES:** (does not include meals)

Full Conference	\$80.00 _____
Thursday only	\$50.00 _____
Friday only	\$40.00 _____
<u>First</u> Time Attendee / Student Full Conference	\$40.00 _____
Student One Day only	\$20.00 _____

**MEALS** (Meals must be prepaid. Price includes gratuities) Meal registrations are no longer accepted after June 3 and there will be no refunds after that time.

Wednesday Executive Board Meeting Supper: Italian Feast	\$ 9.00 _____
Thursday IMTF Luncheon: Quiche, Fresh Fruit, Beverage, Dessert	\$ 9.00 _____
Thursday Conference Banquet (Check one)	\$14.00 _____
Choice #1 Salmon _____	
Choice # 2 Garlic & Herb Crusted Pork Loin _____	

LATE REGISTRATION - postmarked after May 11, 2009 \$15.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Total enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL COMPLETED FORM AND CHECK PAYABLE TO NDMTA

MAIL TO: Michelle Kallod  
419 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue South  
Fargo, ND 58103

NOTE: Requests for refund must be submitted in writing to Michelle Kallod's address and postmarked no later than June 3, 2009. A processing fee of \$15 will be assessed for all refunds.



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Fax: 701-838-1351**

**[info@internationalmusiccamp.com](mailto:info@internationalmusiccamp.com)  
[www.internationalmusiccamp.com](http://www.internationalmusiccamp.com)**



### **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](mailto:lajhg@daktel.com) - [www.ndfmc.org](http://www.ndfmc.org)**

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