



NDMTA NEWS

North Dakota Music Teachers Association

Affiliated with Music Teachers National Association



May Newsletter 2006

Priscilla Keogh, President

Dear MTNA Members,

As I write this last message to you as NDMTA president, we are about to begin our final week of classes. Spring semester is nearly over and I look forward to the summer break, and especially to the NDMTA State Conference, 50 Golden Years of Music, to be held June 9th and 10th in Grand Forks. The Conference Committee, chaired by Linda Hanson-Bell, has done a terrific job preparing what I believe will be an outstanding conference. Because it is our 50th year as an organization, we will be privileged to have a representative from the MTNA national office in attendance. Please check out the schedule of events in this newsletter and make plans to attend two days of education, enrichment, and renewing friendships.

One of the duties of state president is to attend the national conferences which are always outstanding, and this year was no exception. Hearing Van Cliburn share the story of his life with us, being in the audience for a taping of *From the Top* (which I believe will be aired in September), attending the informative sessions and wonderful concerts, and witnessing our Foundation Fellow, Beth Klingenstein receive her award, were all highlights of the Conference. We had a great representation of North Dakota people in attendance. It would be wonderful if every NDMTA member could attend at least one national conference. Start saving now for the 2007 conference in Toronto.

When I agreed to assume the office of vice president four years ago I had no idea what was ahead. I was truly the new kid on the block since I had never been on the Executive Board and knew very few members of the organization outside of my own local group. I heard later that many were asking who this person was that had become vice president. Very special thanks to Sara Bloom, who guided me through two years of vice presidency and continued to support me as I began the office of president. Many times I wondered what in the world I was doing in this position and whether I would survive the experience (rather, would the organization survive me?).

I had no idea how I would be blessed when I first began, and one of the greatest blessings was to have acquired so many wonderful friends here in North Dakota and around the country as I attended four national conferences and two summits. The people in our organization are the best. I have received so much help and encouragement, and can't thank our membership enough, especially our Executive Board. We all should be very thankful to our Board members for serving NDMTA so well, for their dedication and hard work. They are all very busy people, but are still willing to serve. A sincere thank you to Corinne Nustad, our vice president/president elect. She has done an excellent job chairing the competitions and I look forward to her leadership as she assumes the presidency.

Thank you, NDMTA Members, for the privilege of serving as president, for your encouragement and your friendship. Please continue to support those who lead this organization and do what you can to increase our membership and keep us strong. Those who have never served on the Board might consider the possibility. It is a wonderful way to develop friendships as you assist the organization in an important capacity.



*A Message from Your
President*

*Sincerely,
Priscilla Keogh*

NDMTA STATE CONFERENCE

The Greater Grand Forks Music Teacher's Association would like to invite everyone to the 2006 NDMTA State Conference to be held in Grand Forks, ND, June 9-10th. The theme of the conference is "50 Golden Years of Music" and will feature Pianist Jay Hershberger, who is currently Associate Professor of Piano at Concordia College in Moorhead, MN, as the solo guest artist/clinician. Various other workshops will be offered and a recital of MTNA Student Winners, ND musicians, and the Commissioned Composer, Matt Patnode.

We'll have the silent auction on display throughout the conference and breaks for browsing and shopping in the displays/exhibits area.

NDMTA SILENT AUCTION

Have you decided what item you would like to bring to the NDMTA Conference yet? Have you set aside some extra cash to purchase items at the silent auction? If not, here's your friendly reminder that there will be a silent auction held throughout the conference June 9th and 10th. We're hoping that every local will bring a special item and that individual members will donate items as well. We request that items be new, good quality and affordable for piano teacher. Baskets of items are always neat, businesses may be interested in donating items and homemade items are always a treat. Please attach a minimum bid to each item so we have an idea of its value and a good starting amount for the auction. Please bring your auction items to the registration area of Friday, June 9th at the First Presbyterian Church in Grand Forks. Viewing and bidding will take place throughout the conference with the winners announced at the business luncheon at 12:15 ON Saturday, June 10th. This will be a very fun and creative way to raise money for NDMTA!

— *Lisa Schuler, Durum Triangle President*

FOUNDATION FELLOW

Congratulations to the members of NDMTA who contributed to the MTNA Foundation this past fiscal year. Your generous support of the Foundation enabled us to name Beth Klingenstein as North Dakota's fifth MTNA Foundation Fellow. Beth received her award at the Gala in Austin, Texas, in March. We are proud of Beth and all of her gifts in organizing, leading, and sharing. We look forward to her continued distinguished presence in our organization.

We have had five illustrious NDMTA members honored so far, and NDMTA would like to continue this amazing record of financial giving by naming another worthy member next year. If you have ideas of members who you would like to see honored, please submit their names to any Executive Board member for consideration at the June Board meeting.

I would like to remind members that donations to the MTNA Foundation before we name our next Fellow do not go towards that award. Please wait until we have named our next Fellow recipient to donate to that cause. Checks can be made out to the MTNA Foundation with the Fellow's name on the memo line.

Once again NDMTA has placed first nationally in the category of percentage of members contributing to the MTNA Foundation. We are not large in membership, but we are certainly linked in a common bond of supporting the arts through the Foundation. Thank you, thank you.

Finally, I would like to thank all of you for the privilege of serving as your Foundation Chair the past two years. I have gained so many friendships and learned so much from the six years I have served as VP, President, and Foundation Chair. I will miss the frequent contacts, but will eagerly look forward to the annual Conferences.

— Sara A. Bloom, NCTM



Left to right: Paul Stewart, MTNA President; Beth Klingenstein; and Gary Ingle, Executive Director

NDMTA FINANCIAL

Quarterly Report

January 1, 2006—March 31, 2006

		<i>Proposed 05/06 Budget</i>	<i>Actual YTD Budget</i>
<u>ASSETS</u>			
Checking	\$ 8,120.86		
Money Market Savings	\$ 5,278.51		
Gate City Certificate of Deposit	\$ 4,787.27		
<u>INCOME</u>			
Checking Account Interest	\$ 5.92	\$ 20.00	\$ 19.14
Money Market Savings Acct. Interest	\$ 37.15		\$ 106.41
Directory Ads	\$ 50.00	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 1,875.00
Newsletter Ads	\$ 50.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,340.00
Membership Dues	\$ 67.50	\$ 3,400.00	\$ 2,910.00
TOTAL	\$ 210.57	\$ 6,320.00	\$ 6,280.65 (-39.95)
<u>EXPENSES</u>			
General Board: IVN	\$ 210.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 210.00
January Newsletter	\$ 249.12	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 972.46
Advertising editor:	\$ 60.17	\$ 150.00	\$ 147.71
Travel Grants- W. Central Div. - \$100 each	\$ 800.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 800.00
Composition winners:	\$ 100.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 2,148.45
Secretary of State Filing Fee	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00
Misc. Diana Schroch	\$ 74.85		
Rally	\$ 50.00	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 50.00
Directory Editor		\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,094.30
Certification		\$ 75.00	\$ 34.54
Convention		\$ 5,000.00	\$ 3,945.08
Web Page		\$ 300.00	\$ 417.95
Financial Prep		\$ 400.00	\$ 225.00
TOTAL	\$ 1,554.14	\$ 12,335.00	\$ 10,055.49

_ Submitted by Ann Delorme-Holmen

DSU NAMES MARGARET MARCUSEN OUTSTANDING TEACHER OF THE YEAR

*M*argaret Marcusen, lecturer of communication at Dickinson State University in Dickinson, N.D., was named Outstanding Teacher of the Year, College of Arts and Sciences. Marcusen was honored along with nine other staff and faculty members at the annual Faculty and Staff Recognition Reception held May 2 on the DSU campus.

Marcusen is a member of the North Dakota Music Teacher's Association, the National Federated Music Club and many other organizations. She teaches communications and music appreciation at DSU, where she is known for her skill in putting even the most timid student at ease by using a personalized approach. She has been especially commended for her work with international students and visiting faculty.



Margaret Marcusen

_ Submitted by Shanna Schoch

I encourage the members of NDMTA to support music and our organization by placing an ad in the North Dakota MTA Handbook and/or Newsletter. The deadline is October 1, 2006. Please make checks payable to NDMTA. Send a camera-ready layout for your ad to:

Linda Hanson-Bell
311 Barrett Avenue
P.O. Box 425
Larimore, ND 58251-0425
lrae@polarcomm.com
701-343-2534

Handbook

Full Page (7-1/2" high by 4-1/2" wide) \$100.00
Half Page (3-5/8" high by 4-1/2" wide) \$50.00
Quarter Page (1-3/4" high by 4-1/2" wide) \$25.00

Newsletter

_ page ad (4-1/2" high by 7-1/2" wide)-4 issues-\$225.00
_ page ad-1 issue- \$70.00
_ page ad (5" high by 3-1/2 " wide)-4 issues-\$135.00
_ page ad- 1 issue-\$45.00

The estimated date of the Directory Publication will be November 2006. Newsletters are mailed in November, February, May and August. Please feel free to call or e-mail me with any questions. You may also give me your ad and payment at the 2006 NDMTA Conference in Grand Forks, ND.

Thank you for your support of the North Dakota Music Teachers Association through your advertising in the Directory and/or Newsletter.

_ *Linda Hanson-Bell, NDMTA Advertising Coordinator*

THE NDMTA NEWS

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May 10

AN OPEN LETTER FROM THE MTNA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

*I am only one
But still I am one.
I cannot do everything,
But still I can do something.
And because I cannot do everything
I will not refuse to do the something that I can do.*

-Edward Everett Hale

During the month of March, arts advocacy takes center stage as myriad arts organizations converge in Washington D.C. to encourage governmental support of the arts. In fact, MTNA is a national co-sponsor of Arts Advocacy Day in our nation's capital on March 14, 2006. MTNA joins with Americans for the Arts and dozens of other national organizations to ensure that funding and arts-friendly public policies are adopted at the federal, state, and local levels.

As an independent or collegiate music teacher, you may sometimes question the effect on your day-to-day professional life of these public advocacy efforts. But be assured there is a dynamic connection between, for example, public music instruction, which is directly impacted, and your private studios. In fact, our futures are intimately connected, for if music and the arts are just "frills" in the public sector, then music instruction in the private sector will be adversely impacted. MTNA will remain a staunch supporter at the national level. But our resolve is not sufficient. You must be personally involved and advocating for music and the arts in your sphere of influence.

Here are some ideas and resources you may find helpful in your advocacy efforts:

1. Every conversation about your work is an opportunity to change the way your work is perceived. Be passionate, be informed and be unapologetic.

2. The MTNA publication Community Outreach and Education for the Arts Handbook. A handbook for promoting music and the other arts in our schools and communities. Includes updated information sources as well as a fill-in-the-blank template designed to help IMTs accumulate and organize information about various community resources.

3. Websites devoted to advocacy:

- www.supportmusic.com

A public service of the Music Education Coalition. MTNA is a supporting organization. Up-to-date information on music and learning, help from experts and how to start a coalition.

- www.amc-music.org

AMC's goal is to build credibility for music and music education, especially at an early age, and to expand that portion of the population that enjoys and makes its own music. Website contains articles, music advocacy resources and latest research.

- www.artslynx.org

Artslynx is designed as a portal to the best information on the arts available on the web. Material is specifically optimized for educators, students, and professionals working in the arts. Also features "Arts on the Line" – tools for arts advocates, including articles and extensive list of "links," and speeches.

- www.artsusa.org

Americans for the Arts is a leading nonprofit organization for advancing the arts in America. With more than 40 years of service, it is dedicated to representing and serving local communities and creating opportunities for every American to participate in and appreciate all forms of the arts.

- www.artsmarketing.org

ArtsMarketing.org is a resource for teachers and students in arts administration/arts management programs and for all members of the arts community, across all artistic disciplines. Through ArtsMarketing.org, artistic peers and marketing professionals address daily marketing needs and longer-term marketing issues for those working in the area of arts advocacy and music education.

- www.cac.ca.gov

The California Arts Council works for a broad public understanding of, and appreciation for, the positive impact the arts play in enriching cultural, economic, and intellectual life in their communities and schools. Website includes usable information for any state, not just California.

4. Build a coalition in your community with other arts advocates – teachers, church musicians, etc.

I promise you our total commitment. But it will amount to little without your personal involvement. While you are only one, your efforts, interest, and work in the area of arts advocacy are crucial to our successes at all levels.

As we work together, personally and in partnership with other arts organizations, we will fulfill our mission “to advance the value of music study and music making to everyone in our country.”

Sincerely,

Gary L. Ingle, Executive Director, MTNA

MTNA KATRINA RECOVERY FUND

Did you know you as an MTNA member can still be part of the continuing recovery process for MTNA members affected by Hurricane Katrina? Even though several months have passed, there is still a great need for financial support in the devastated areas. MTNA members in Louisiana and Mississippi have received countless amounts of printed music, but continue to struggle as their insurance claims are denied and they are not able to earn money by teaching.

The East Texas Music Teachers Association (ETMTA), based in Tyler, Texas, understood this ongoing need and organized a practice-a-thon. With a mission to strengthen student's practice habits while supporting MTNA in its effort to raise funds for teachers affected by the Hurricane Katrina disaster, 48 students from 10 teachers' studios participated in the event which was held during the week of February 19–25, 2006. The final tally is in and the 48 students practiced a total 8,798 minutes. The \$2,751.60 raised during the practice-a-thon was contributed to the MTNA Hurricane Katrina Recovery Fund, and the students who practiced 150 minutes or more were eligible for prizes.

To find out more about the ETMTA Practice-A-Thon, visit the ETMTA website at <http://www.etmta.org/hurricane-relief.html>. On this website there are instructions and forms that could be useful for other locals to sponsor a practice-a-thon.

While the recovery process for music teachers in the gulf coastal areas has begun, it is a long way from being finished. MTNA encourages its affiliates and members to continue to remember their colleagues in Louisiana and Mississippi as they rebuild their lives. Organizing events like this practice-a-thon are great ways to encourage students to practice, in addition to creating a service project opportunity.

Contributions to the MTNA Hurricane Katrina Recovery Fund may be made over the telephone (888) 512-5278 or by U.S. mail (MTNA, The Carew Tower, 441 Vine Street, Suite 505, Cincinnati, OH 45202). Please specify "Hurricane Katrina Recovery Fund" when you call or write. Because MTNA's administrative costs are funded through other means, every dollar contributed to the Recovery Fund goes directly to aid teachers in Louisiana and Mississippi.

...A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR...

Greetings from the editor. This spring has been more filled than usual. The newsletter does not have lots of news from national except for the photo of our member, Beth Klingenstein receiving the honor of Foundation Fellow Award. Having missed this conference, I cannot share personal experience from this year. I do have strong memories from the three consecutive conferences I did attend.

National conference is an experience like none other. It is worth the trip, but it also means planning very carefully to be away from home and work for nearly a week. Maybe your planning can include applying for a North Dakota Council on the Arts Teacher's Professional Grant of \$500. Twice it made the decision to attend much easier for me. The grant writing process takes some time also, but is well worth the few minutes time and several phone calls. Check them out on the web for information at www.nd.gov/arts. Amy Schmidt is the Public Information Officer and willing to give teachers assistance.

— Arlene Gray

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM MTNA... COUNTDOWN TO CANADA BEGINS NOW!

Did you know now is the time you should begin your planning to attend the 2007 Collaborative Conference in Toronto, Ontario? This groundbreaking international conference brings together, for the first time, MTNA, the Canadian Federation of Music Teachers Association and the Royal Conservatory of Music—and you will want to be there. If you have ever thought about attending the MTNA Conference or wish you had the resources to make it happen, now is the time to plan. Your preparations will involve both time and money, and MTNA wants to offer suggestions to help make attending the national conference a reality.

Setting the Calendar for your Studio

As you prepare for the 2006–2007 teaching year, you will determine how many weeks you are going to teach and when. To insure you have the time off to go to the conference and that you are making the same amount of income while you are attending the conference, you need to plan your calendar so you start teaching one week earlier or teach one week later. Another way to set the calendar is to go ahead and schedule the dates that you will be gone and then plan “make-up” lessons. The 2007 Conference is March 23–27.

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Setting Tuition for your Studio

Based on current airfare to Toronto, hotel accommodations, food and some miscellaneous spending money, you might want to budget approximately \$2,000 to attend the 2007 Conference. Now is the time that you will be setting your tuition for next year and now is the time that your studio supports you. For example, if you have 20 students and they take lessons for 40 weeks of the year each student would be responsible for \$100 toward your attendance at the national conference—that would be \$2.50 per lesson more to raise your rates to cover the expenses. If you have 30 students and teach 40 weeks that is just \$1.65 per student more that you would need to charge.

Communicating the Importance

As you prepare your fall newsletter, it will be important to communicate with your students that you are planning to attend the MTNA Collaborative Conference, that it is in Toronto and that this is your time for professional renewal and networking. Isn't it more comforting to know that your physician continues to go to conferences and reads professional journals and knows the latest information? Students and parents will appreciate the fact that you are going, meeting composers of pieces they play, hearing outstanding young artists, networking with other teachers, exploring new methods and information on teaching and bringing back all of that information to share with them through your own teaching.

Countdown to Canada begins now! If you have any questions or would like further information, please contact Rachel Kramer, Director of Educational Services at rkramer@mtna.org or (888) 512-5278 ext. 242.