



## Letter from the President, Jeanette Berntson



Hi NDMTA Members,

Thank you so much for granting me the honor of serving you as NDMTA president. I am blessed to have the opportunity to give to the people and the organization who have generously given to me. I am especially thankful for

our state and local MTA board members. They faithfully serve behind the scenes to bring you professional programs, competitions, resources, and conferences. Thank one when you have the chance!

Bismarck/ Mandan MTA hosted this year's state conference. Everyone who came appreciated the results of their hard work. In this newsletter you can gain some of the helpful information our presenters, Jennifer Linn and Michael Langer, shared and hear of the gorgeous

sounds we were serenaded with by Popplers Competitors, Commissioned Composer Andrew Miller and his Inspiraré Choir, Bismarck State College Jazz Combo, and the Nariaki Sugiura and Simona Barbu duo. You will also read of our own music teachers inspiring each other at the IMTF luncheon about competitions and at our state annual business meeting.

Mark your calendars and start saving your pennies for next year's state conference now! It will be at NDSU in Fargo, June 7-9, 2017. I'm looking forward to meeting you there!

## Some Notes from your Membership Chairperson

*By Vangie Parker*

Welcome to all returning members as we enter another great year of music and professional development.

May we ALL extend a hearty welcome to new member Bernadette Fromherz who returns to us from student to active membership and Annette Karges, who lives in Minot and teaches piano and Elementary Music! Welcome back Bernadette and welcome aboard Annette!

Our membership in

NDMTA/MTNA assists us in becoming better teachers through the following:

- Informational MTNA Webinars, publications, and national advocacy
- Local programs and workshops
- Mentoring and Fellowship with other members. (My favorite).
- New teaching strategies
- Educational offerings at our annual conference each June
- Events which help our students to strive at attaining their personal best

Pat yourselves on the back for your involvement in our state and local

membership! Please share what you have learned through your state and national affiliation with other teachers. Our goal is to add new members so that they and their students may have the same opportunities you have had. **Research shows that most new members join associations because a colleague took the time to invite them.** I challenge each one of you to think of at least one person you know who could benefit from our organization. Extend a hand of friendship and fellowship! It's the right thing to do!

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## VIP Membership Newsletter

**Cindy Peterson-Peart, NCTM  
Northwest Division Director-Elect**

*TO: State Presidents, State Presidents-elect, State Membership Chairs, Local Association Presidents*

Do you remember when you first joined your local MTNA chapter? The unforgettable part is probably not an e-mail or text message or Facebook page interaction. For most of us who joined in the pre-Internet age, our memories are of fellow teachers who warmly and personally welcomed us and helped us along the way. In Oregon, we recently said goodbye to a long-time member who is moving away. At her farewell tea, many teachers spoke about what she'd meant to them. Without exception, each one had a story to share of how she had personally gone out of her way to make them feel welcomed, involved, supported and valued. This is the true face of MTNA—the **personal** face.

We're all busy, that goes without saying. The wonderful advent of technology allows us to do more than ever and, as a result, we seem to have less time than ever. It's quite the Catch 22, isn't it? Without MTNA's online presence, through national, state, and local websites and social media, we wouldn't be able to reach the same number of potential members. But what do we do once we have them? That's the vital question. So I have a challenge for you. What can you do to be the personal face of MTNA?

- A telephone call to welcome a new member can be so much more personal than an e-mail.
- A morning coffee or afternoon reception connects veteran teachers with those who've just joined in a social and supportive atmosphere.
- One-on-one mentoring programs help new teachers feel guided and encouraged through their first years of membership.
- A carpool where established members ride with new members to an association meeting or event is the perfect place to share ideas, answer questions and offer support.
- Invite a new member to co-chair an event. Not only will they feel appreciated, you'll gain invaluable new volunteers.
- Encourage new members to attend your state conference, at a free or reduced rate, and identify them with special nametags so that other members will go out of their way to greet them.
- The personal face of MTNA is the life-long friendships we've all made. We've grown up in our careers together, raised our children together and settled into retirement (or semi-retirement) together. How can you share this legacy with those new members, coming up through the ranks today? Are you up for the challenge?

## The Young and the Impressionable

*Submitted by Anne Morris*

On Thursday, June 16, I attended Jennifer Linn's "The Young and the Impressionable." This session did not encompass what the title led me to believe it would. Instead, it dealt with preparing young students to play Impressionist music. Linn described how her mother knocked the creative spirit right out of her when she gave her piano lessons as a child, but her first teacher of Impressionist music, John McIntyre from Cody, Wyoming, stirred her interest in this style of music.

Linn said that learning the follow-

ing two pieces is a good way to start playing Impressionist music: "Arabesque" by Debussy, which teaches balance, and "Children's Corner" by Doctor Gradus ad Parnassum, which teaches detailed pedaling.

Impressionist music appeals highly to today's students. Debussy's compositions were rejected by past musicians because he didn't follow the accepted rules for harmonic language, however. She also explained that because this rhythmic language uses polyrhythms, students need to have experi-

ence with three against two precision. Students need to gain experience listening to this style of music because it is such a different flavor than they are used to, she said. Atmosphere is more important than emotion in Impressionist music.

Linn suggested teaching a piece that she composed, "The Enchanted Mermaid," to allow students to practice pedal effects. This piece can be played as a duet, especially for any young student who is too frightened to perform alone, although she says she likes it better as a solo.

*(Continued on page 4)*

## Music of John Adams – Session by Michael Langer

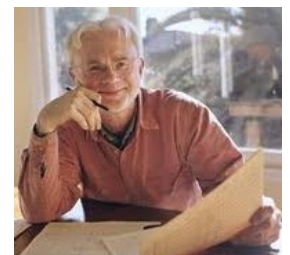
*Beth Gigante  
Klingenstien*

Michael Langer's presentation on the music of John Adams offered the audience insights into the compositions of one of America's greatest living composers. Many of those in the audience were new to his music, and Michael gave a thought-provoking overview, including performances (both live and taped) of eight of his compositions. Michael's live performances during the presentation showed the challenge of the music, including a piece performed with violin that demonstrated the rhythmic complexities of the music.

Michael pointed out that Adams likes to write on controversial topics (such as the creator of the atomic bomb) and he highlighted a number of Adams' influences both indirect (his clarinet playing, his attendance at Harvard), and direct (popular American music, electronic music, Minimalism, and dreams). Michael discussed Minimalism further to help the audience better understand Adams' use of techniques such as tape looping, phase shifting, and repetition. He gave examples of various other compositional techniques as well and,

in the selections chosen for the presentation, highlighted influences such as jazz, the player piano, French and Japanese music, Charles Ives, rhythmic displacement, textural layering, and big band swing music.

Michael closed with a comment that John Adams' music is "like a blender that he throws everything he likes into," and after being exposed to the various compositional techniques presented that day, I am sure many in the audience would agree!



John Adams

[His] music is "like a blender that he throws everything he likes into",  
- Michael Langer



## Conference Recital Featuring Nariaki Sugiura, Piano and Simona Barbu, Cello

Submitted by Priscilla Keogh

Conference attendees were treated to a wonderful performance of two outstanding artists, Nariaki Sugiura and Simona Barbu. This husband/wife duo presented a program featuring music from different parts of the world – Russia, Japan and Argentina.

They began with “Six Romances Op. 4” by Russian composer Sergi Rachmaninoff. These beautiful love songs, originally composed for voice, were arranged for cello and piano by Simona. Listening to her cello playing was like listening to a human voice without words, complemented by Nariaki with his dynamic playing.

Japanese composer Hisatada Otaka’s “Nocturne for Cello and Piano” was next on the program and incorporated the full range of the cello with lovely melodies and very sensitive playing. “Danse d’une poupee japonaise for Cello and Piano” by another Japanese composer, Takashi Kurata was lively, percussive, and demonstrated the virtuosity of both musicians.

“Oblivion” and “Libertango” by Argentinian composer Astor Piazzolla combined classical, jazz and blues. The first piece was a mellow, lyrical tango, and the second was a faster paced, exciting piece featuring some wonderful improvisation by Nariaki.

After intermission we were treated to “Sonata for Cello and Piano, Op. 19 in G Minor” by Rachmaninoff, a four movement, very difficult master-

piece, beautifully played by this duo. Simona played with gorgeous tone, total control, and virtuosity. Nariaki executed the technically challenging parts with ease, and the lyrical parts with great sensitivity. This piece was typical Rachmaninoff – you didn’t want it to end!

What a blessing to have such exceptionally talented musicians living in our state. Their performance at the NDMTA Conference was a great gift to all who were privileged to be there.

## The Young and the Impressionable (cont.)

(Continued from page 3)

She also suggested “Fog at Sea” by Gillock, which uses a whole-tone scale and pedaling, “Flamingo” by Linn, and “Raft of Flowers” by Naoko Ikeda (which is a good choice for very young students).

In a new book composed by Linn entitled *Animals Have Feelings Too*, the song “Understanding Whale” is a lovely first recital piece. An instructor should play the chords and ask the student about the aural experience.

Linn noted that sometimes music can be silly, like the piece “Don’t Bug Me,” which escapes major and minor restraints. Another piece, “Mission Bells” by Gillock, uses pedal effects, expanded range, voicing layers, and blending gestures.

Linn suggested holding an Impressionist recital. She has composed an intermediate piano collection entitled *Yellowstone Suite*, which includes a piece called “Morning Glory Pool” as one of six solos. This piece requires that the student project the upper voice, soften the in-

side layer, and play a black key glissando.

Linn has also composed “Tonnerre sur Esplaines,” in the *Les Petites Images* book, a piece that is inspired by nature and shifts in color and mood. This is a great beginning piece for young students, as children tend to enjoy the storyline. Another piece from the same book, “Hummingbird,” escapes major and minor keys and features blending gestures, voicing of layers, expanded range, and augmented sounds. “The Great White Sharp” from the same book teaches three against two and is a black key piece.



## Beth Gigante Klingenstein Earns Service to the Profession Award

March 26, 2016

Dear Service to the Profession Award Committee,

The Langdon Area Music Teachers Association is excited to nominate Dr. Beth Gigante Klingenstein for the 2016 Service to the Profession Award!

Beth is a long time and very active member of MTNA, NDMTA, and Valley City MTA and was a member in Virginia before moving to North Dakota over twenty years ago.



Some of the positions she has held on the NDMTA Executive Board include being our president twice; in 2000-2002 and 2012-2014. She has also been our Past President, Foundation Chair, Advertising Chair, Music Link Chair and probably more. She also went through the rotations of all of the positions in her local association with Valley City, hosting two state conferences while she was there.

Beth was passionate with every position she held for NDMTA. She always found a way to improve upon the positions. She made them grow because of her ideas, attention to details, her leadership, and her insistence on the important issues at hand.

Beth Klingenstein was the recipient of the NDMTA "Teacher of the Year" award in 1997 as NDMTA noticed her contributions almost immediately upon moving to North Dakota. She was also a Foundation Fellow in 2006. The Langdon Area MTA feels that honoring Beth with the Service to the Profession Award would be very fitting now that she has concluded her time on the state board. Due to her current job as the Executive Director of the North Dakota Council on the Arts, Beth can no longer participate on the board being NDMTA is a recipient of grants from the council, making it a conflict of inter-

est. She is allowed however, to be a member and she has been given permission to serve at the national level. She has since moved through the ranks in MTNA and is now the Director for the West Central Division!

Beth has not only been a work horse for NDMTA but a true inspiration and mentor to many of its members. Probably one of the most visible contributions to the membership is her development of her online pedagogy class during her employment at Valley City State University. The class requirements were intentionally set up so that when students and members completed her class, they would have all of the requirements for national certification in MTNA. Beth has also contributed to the teaching profession with her latest publication "The Independent Piano Teacher's Studio Handbook". We all wish that this book would have been available when we first started teaching years ago!

NDMTA is not the only entity to reap music benefits from Beth Klingenstein. The community of Valley City has gained as well. She started the VCSU Community School of the Arts in 1994. It offers arts instruction and activities in a variety of areas including private music lessons, an annual Chamber Music Festival, ensemble opportunities such as the Valley Youth Choir and Valley Civic Orchestra, and visual arts classes in film, painting, and ceramics among others. She wrote many grants for the programs and to acquire instruments for the school. Beth also taught at the school, which has had students ranging in age from 3 to 85! She developed a Kindermusik program and a scholarship program for the community school so that any student, regardless of income, could avail themselves of music lessons.

Beth had influences in the music department at VCSU by serving as Faculty Association President, Chair of the Music Department and she brought in many musicians from around the county to perform and work with the students of VCSU.

Dr. Klingenstein is nationally known from her presence in MTNA. She has presented many sessions at national and state conferences and she still travels throughout the country today giving presentations on various topics. When walking the halls at MTNA conferences, there are constant greetings from members. They all recognize her and respect her.

We all know Beth as a professional but we also know her as a very sweet and humble human being. Even though she has moved into the arts advocacy world, she still takes time to call Lisa Schuler to see how NDMTA is doing, to talk about membership concerns and other music and art related topics. Her friendship is valued by all of us.

Lastly, LAMTA feels that this would be the perfect year to present Beth Klingenstein the Service to the Profession Award being the conference is in Bismarck, where she now resides. Beth plans to attend the conference on Thursday, June 16<sup>th</sup>, which is the day of the banquet and the presentation of this award. She is a very busy lady with her Arts Council position and it would be wonderful for her to be able to accept this award among the membership that loves her so dearly!

Thank you for considering Beth Gigante Klingenstein for the 2016 Service to the Profession Award!

Sincerely,  
The Langdon Area Music Teachers Association

## The Independent Music Teachers Forum – Panel Discussion

*Beth Gigante Klingenstien*

The Independent Music Teachers Forum (IMTF) lunch was followed by a panel discussion on the topic of competitions. The panel was well chosen to discuss competitions from a variety of perspectives. Competitions Co-Chair, Sue Nagel, discussed the state competitions whose winners advance to the divisional level competitions and finally on to the MTNA national competitions. Sue, who has held

her position for eight years, discussed the various levels of competitions, the ages of those who are eligible, competitions for various instruments and groups, and the process for advancing from one competition level to the next.

“THE GOAL OF ENTERING COMPETITIONS IS NOT TO WIN, BUT TO DO ONE’S BEST AND LEARN FROM THE EXPERIENCE.”  
GERALDINE ONG

Geraldine Ong gave the next presentation by video as, fittingly enough, she was in Texas judging their state competitions at the time of the luncheon. Geraldine spoke from the perspective of a competitor, having competed in well over 30 competitions herself. She was the winner of the Texas Young

Artist competition and went on to place 3<sup>rd</sup> at nationals, so she had wonderful insight into the process. She reminded teachers that the goal of entering competitions is not to win, but to do one’s best and to learn from the experience. She commented on the importance of picking repertoire that highlights one’s skills and allowing enough time to prepare, especially given the varied repertoire requirements of different competitions. She stressed the importance of “practicing performing,” so that one will be better able to respond to the nerves that inevitably accompany competing. Geraldine sees competitions as a time for both students and teachers to grow.

Arlene Gray has headed the NODAK competitions for a number of years. These non-advancing competitions have recently been renamed the Popplers Competitions, as Popplers generously agreed to be an annual sponsor of the event, donating \$500 each year. These competitions do not advance into higher levels of competition, but rather were started to offer teachers and students a more comfortable entry into the

world of competitions. Arlene read a moving letter from a student, Sydney Crockett, who talked about all that she has gained from entering competitions.

Gloria Bethke spoke from the perspective of a teacher who regularly enters her students in competitions. She talked about the importance of choosing repertoire carefully and preparing students to better understand theory and stylistic playing. Carefully teaching the skill of memorization in a way that allows the student to feel comfortable starting anywhere is another tool that assists students when competing. Gloria sees the preparation for and experience of competing as a wonderful way to develop confidence in students, allowing them to then perform with more self-assurance. Gloria read a letter from Sydney Crockett’s mother, who spoke of the value of the competitions to her daughter, and the gratitude she felt at having had the opportunity for her daughter to learn to set and achieve goals.

## Independent Music Teachers Forum

Submitted by Lisa Schuler

The Langdon Area Music Teachers Association will be overseeing the IMTF Program for the next two years. The Independent Music Teachers Forum provides opportunities for communication and collaboration affecting the independent music teacher.

Each year at the NDMTA State Conference there is an IMTF Luncheon. It offers a tasty meal followed by a presentation or panel discussion on a selected topic. Past luncheons have focused on such topics as group lessons, benefits of recitals, NDMTA Music Rallies, teaching websites, competitions, etc. If you have an interest in a topic that you would like to hear discussed at future IMTF luncheons, feel free to share your ideas with the current IMTF Chair, Lisa Schuler.

Another important program within IMTF is the ND Teaching Library. Local Associations of NDMTA may take advantage of this extensive library for professional development. Below is the current inventory of the teaching library.



### ND TEACHING LIBRARY

#### CDs

1. "But Are We Teaching Music?" – Blickenstaff, Werner
2. "From Start to Finish: A Live Teaching Demo with Jane Bastien"
3. "The Mind of Beethoven" (Sonatas) – No Intro.
4. "The Motion Makes the Music" – (W. Gillocks' Lyric Preludes) – Dr. Tania Gill
5. "Piano Practice: A Positive Addiction" – Suzanne Guy
6. "Public Perception & Self Perception: Are They the Same?" – Klingenstein
7. "Public Perception & Self Perception: Shaping Integral Perception" – Klingenstein
8. "Scales as the Basis for Teaching Twentieth – Century Piano Music" – Zierolf  
Zierolf's manuscript is also available to borrow
9. "Ways to Upgrade and Uplift Your Teaching Career" Beth- Klingenstein

#### DVDs

1. "How to Form Good Fingering Habits" Ruth Slenczyunska (40min)

2. "The Importance of Rhythm in Practicing" Jane Allen (30min)
3. "Imagery in Piano Performance" Dennis Alexander" (58 min)
4. "Piano Technique – is There One Way?" Sona Haydon (41 min)
5. "Portrait of a Pianist Teacher" Nelita True (60 min)
6. "The Studio Lesson" – Nelita True (30 min)
7. "Principles of Style for the Young Pianist" Nelita True (35 min)
8. "Technique Through Listening" Nelita True (30 min)
9. "Memorization in Piano Performance: Stewart Gordon (64 min)
10. "Performance Practices" by Alfred (65 min)
11. "Recreational Music Making" (4 DVD set)
12. "Baroque Dances" by Alfred (42 min)
13. "Taubman Techniques" – Five DVDs (**sent by insured mail**)
  1. "Introductory Principles and Concepts" (2 hrs. 3 min.)
  2. "Forearm Rotation" (2 hrs. 2 min.)
  3. "In and Out Arm Movements" (2 hrs. 3 min.)
  4. "Shaping" and "Octaves" (2 hrs.)
  5. "The Walking Arm and Hand Movements" and "Question Periods" (1 hr 56 min.)

#### VIDEO TAPES

- "Anatomy of a Piano" – John Serkin (75 min.)  
"Creative Chords" – Marilyn M. Moe (3 videos)

#### CASSETTE TAPES

- "Influences on Chopin's Style" – No intro  
"May I have this dance?" – Duet examples

#### MTNA BROCHURES

- "Developing An Effective Studio Brochure"  
"Licensing and Zoning Issues for the Independent Music Teacher"  
"The MTNA Foundation National Survey of Independent Music Teacher Income and Lesson Fees."



**If members and local associations would like to share luncheon ideas or would like library items sent to them, please contact Lisa Schuler at [lschuler@utma.com](mailto:lschuler@utma.com) or (701) 256-2749.**

## Jennifer Linn and Hal Leonard Featured

by Paula Grosinger

The final session of the 2016 NDMTA conference was presented by Jennifer Linn. In addition to being an educator and clinician, Ms. Linn has composed and arranged for Hal Leonard and is Manager of Educational Piano with the company.

Ms. Linn emphasized the importance of building creativity into every lesson and reaching beyond traditional classical training. She shared an experience from her youth illustrating how classical training can fall short.

“MY FRIENDS  
MOTHER  
WANTED ME TO  
PLAY ‘HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY’...I  
COULDN’T PLAY  
IT WITHOUT  
MUSIC IN FRONT  
OF ME...”

-JENNIFER LINN

“I was 11 years old and I was attending a birthday party at a friend’s home. My friend’s mother wanted me to play ‘Happy Birthday’ before the cake was served. I asked if there was music for the song.”

Like most piano students Linn’s classical training had not included the tune and she did not play by ear. Her friend’s mother asked, “Can’t you just play it?” “I

couldn’t play it without music in front of me. It was embarrassing,” Linn related.

Ms. Linn discussed modern technologies to help engage students in activities like improvisation, sight-reading, ear-training, arranging and composition at early stages. “The goal is to have our students love the piano.”

The **Piano Maestro** app from Joy Tunes is an example of new technology. The application includes lessons and solos and is the number one education app in 20 countries. The app is free for registered teachers and their students. <https://teachers.joytunes.com/apps#pm>

Ms. Linn’s presentation included video of a piano teacher using “Party Cat” by composer Philip Keveren to teach improvisation to a young student using position improvisation cards. The cards use both keys and notes so young students can make their own arrangements while

the teacher plays a foundation accompaniment.

So, how does a teacher help a student love the piano?

Repertoire geared to skill development helps. Early elementary and elementary books like Linn’s **Animals Have Feelings Too** help take learning “out of the method book box.” Ms. Linn’s **Just Pink** is a collection of nine pieces that teach boogie and blues riffs. The composition, “Astéroïdes,” teaches glissando. Her **Journey Through the Classics** series exposes students to the major composers. **Journey Through the Classics Complete** includes 98 pieces which can be a great refresher for adults returning to the piano.

Ms. Linn also covered arrangements by Carol Klose, Fred Kern (**Four Hands on Broadway**), and Mike Watts (**Disney Piano Duets**, co-arranged by Linn).

Hal Leonard provides access to online MP3 audio and MIDI files for many of the books in their Student Piano Library. Both students and teachers can create their own online music libraries on the company website by using the code found in the front of most Hal Leonard books printed after 2014.

The company used to produce CDs but disc technology is already becoming outdated and students prefer to use their personal computers and other devices. Playback Plus (available for computer) permits musicians to transpose, change speed and even loop their audio files. Teachers can also find free teaching tips, articles and downloads at: <https://ipianoteacher.com/>

*Paula Grosinger is a writer and musician who lives in Mandan, North Dakota. She teaches piano and guitar.*

*\*Editor’s Note: After Jennifer Linn’s workshop, The Piano Maestro app by Joy Tunes announced the app will no longer be free. See their website for pricing structure.*



## “But What Does Musical Mean”

**Presented by Jennifer Linn  
Submitted by Marge Johnson - FMMTA**

A good conference session is one that gives you practical teaching tips that you can take back to your studio. Jennifer Linn did just that by giving us some helpful suggestions about “musical playing.”

Jennifer suggested that we inspire our students by giving them the knowledge about the music and the songs that they are playing. We should encourage them to have a commitment to a practice schedule and to the routine of “how to practice.”

Ms. Linn also stated that to play musically, we must use our head and not just our fingers and have an enthusiasm to do a good job. There is no end to learning for the teacher and the student!

Those attending the session were divided into small groups for a discussion on a certain topic. After a few minutes, a spokesperson from each group shared a few insights from their group’s discussion. Here are the topics that were discussed and a brief point from each one:

- ♪ Not Now – Later: Establish realistic goals and have a strong triangle of Teacher, Student, Parent
- ♪ Look, Mom, I Can Play
- ♪ With My Eyes Closed: Have themed recitals and tangible record of progress, find a spark with compositions and competitions
- ♪ Soccer Vs Piano: Balance event priority, parent support, and firm but flexible boundaries

### ♪ I want to quit lessons:

Teachers can offer some changes, be flexible, offer different literature, maybe take a break from lessons

### ♪ I have to study for exams:

Break from the practice routine and only work on trouble spots, do some memorizing or work on a difficult piece slowly

### ♪ Career Paths for

#### Piano Students:

Give students realistic goals and career paths that include a solid theory background



This was a valuable presentation for all to consider the benefits of teaching piano and I would personally encourage all teachers to attend sessions where you can enrich your teaching.

## 2016 Conference Banquet

by Jeanette Berntson, NCTM, NDMTA President

**We had an enjoyable banquet at this year's conference. We were serenaded by the Bismarck State college Jazz Combo while we visited and ate a delicious meal. Alisha Harris, 2016 Conference Chair, hosted the program and Lisa Schuler gave the welcome, both entertaining us with facts about 60 years ago. Vanessa Wold, BMMTA President, prayed for the meal. Kathy Bresee presented membership certificates to Bob Groves, Cathie Scheid, and Arleen Norton for 10 consecutive years of MTNA membership and to Sarah Bloom and Lisa Schuler for 25 consecutive years of MTNA membership. Kathleen Johnson and Lisa Schuler presented the Service to the Profession Award to Beth Klingenstein for the many ways she has built up the music teaching profession. Eileen and Don Geske were recognized for 60 years of marriage.**

## Session 5 “The Wisdom of the Sonatina Masters” –Jennifer Linn

Submitted by Jennifer Flores over editing.

Jennifer Linn currently holds the title of Manager-Educational Piano for Hal Leonard, and recently edited volumes of sonatinas by both Clementi and Kuhlau, (now available through Hal Leonard). This session was about these two great composers and how their sonatinas can be used in teaching.

Considered the father of the Pianoforte, Clementi wore many hats: he hired teachers, created method books, and built pianos, (he is responsible for adding the damper pedal). Without him, the piano may not have spread through Europe. It was said that Mozart was the better musician, but Clementi was the better pianist.

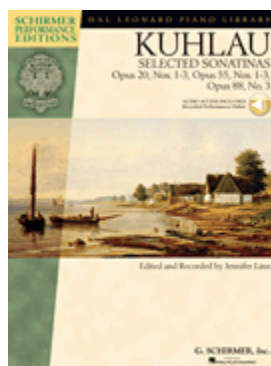
Previous editions of Clementi’s sonatinas are all different: due to printing difficulties, the earliest editions lack slurs, articulations, and fingering, whereas later editions are guilty of extreme



Clementi proves his prodigious pedagogical knowledge with his 6 sonatinas, each with progressive difficulty in key signature, dotted rhythms, time signatures, and ornaments, (trills, appoggiaturas, turns, and slides). He often first introduces new ideas in slow movements, then continues to reinforce concepts in both later movements and later sonatinas. (It is noted that trills were much easier on Clementi’s piano because the key bed was shorter, so the keys were half as heavy.) It is important to take time with the slow movements.

Clementi writes with wit and charm, and there is much to learn in the slow movements. We are encouraged to take the time to shape the melodies. (The pop song, “Groovy Kind of Love”, uses the melody from the 5<sup>th</sup> sonatina.)

The second Sonatina Master discussed was Friedrich Kuhlau. Although regarded as the



“Beethoven of the Flute,” he is also known for writing for Piano.

Kuhlau was only interested in Flute, until after a serious eye injury. He was sick for months, when his parents rolled a piano into his room and he began composing. He is transitional, but more Romantic: his slow movements sound like Schubert.

Kuhlau’s sonatinas are also progressive in level, key, meter, rhythm elements, challenge elements, and length. His opus 20, # 1, is great for teaching duple and triple rhythms; it is a great piece to use to nail down consistency with these rhythms. Consider using a scale to warm up, with one hand on quarter notes, and the other eight notes or triplets; try parallel or contrary motion. For advanced division of the pulse, note the rests and releases of the slow movement, (Op 20, No 3, ii).

Jennifer Linn found editing Kuhlau a very different project than the Clementi. Older editions have a great deal of interpretation; her edition goes back to the original.

# Handout from Jennifer Linn's Workshop on Sonatina Masters

The Wisdom of the Sonatina Masters  
 NDMTA 2016  
 Presenter: Jennifer Linn

## CLEMENTI SONATINAS OP. 36

### Key Signatures

- C (1,2,3,5)
- F (1,4)
- G (2,3,5)
- B-flat (4)
- D (6)

### Time Signatures

- 4/4 (1,3,5,6)
- 3/4 (1,2,4)
- 3/8 (1,2,5)
- 2/4 (2,3,4,5)
- Cut time (1,3)
- 6/8 (6)

## Appoggiaturas, Turns, and Slides

- Sonatina No. 1 none
- Sonatina No. 2 (i) foreshadows the turn
- Sonatina No. 3 (i),(ii) appoggiaturas
- Sonatina No. 4 (ii) slow turn with symbol

## Appoggiaturas, Turns, and Slides

- Sonatina No. 4 (iii) turn in a fast passage
- Sonatina No. 5 (i) appoggiatura  
(ii) appoggiatura, slide & turn
- Sonatina No. 5 (i) appoggiatura  
(ii) appoggiatura, slide

## SLOW MOVEMENTS

Triplet  
 3/4 Time signature  
 Dotted eighth sixteenth  
 Dotted Quarter with Eighth  
 32nd note  
 Trill  
 Appoggiatura  
 B-flat Key Signature  
 Turn  
 Slide



**North Dakota Music Teacher's Association  
Budget 2016-17**

| <b><u>ESTIMATED INCOME:</u></b>                    | <b>Proposed<br/>2015-16</b> | <b>Actual<br/>2015-16</b> | <b>Proposed<br/>2016-17</b> |
|--|-----------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| NDMTA Dues   | 2,800.00                    | 2,722.50                  | \$2,800.00                  |
| Directory Ads                                      | 600.00                      | 975.00                    | \$1,000.00                  |
| Web Ads  | 400.00                      | 100.00                    | \$400.00                    |
| Newsletter Ads                                     |                             |                           |                             |
| Rally (registrations)                              | 2,800.00                    | 2,821.00                  | \$2,800.00                  |
| <b>Auditions</b>                                   |                             |                           |                             |
| Popplers Music Competition Entry Fees              | 350.00                      | 170.00                    | \$350.00                    |
| Popplers Music Competition underwriting            |                             | 500.00                    | \$500.00                    |
| WCD/MTNA Reimbursements                            | 600.00                      | 535.00                    | \$600.00                    |
| <b>Conference – Grand Forks June 2015</b>          |                             |                           |                             |
| refund from Hilton Garden Inn                      |                             | 202.76                    |                             |
| <b>Conference – Bismarck June 2016</b>             |                             |                           |                             |
| Registration (and meals) (tickets and donations)   | 4,500.00                    | 3,872.00                  |                             |
| Silent Auction                                     | 450.00                      |                           |                             |
| <b>Conference – Fargo June 2017</b>                |                             |                           |                             |
| Registration (and meals)                           |                             |                           | \$4,500.00                  |
| Silent Auction                                     |                             |                           | \$450.00                    |
| From West Central Savings                          | 500.00                      |                           |                             |
| MTNA Commissioned Composer                         | 750.00                      | 750.00                    | \$750.00                    |
| Interest on Checking (1.44) [not included Savings] | 1.50                        | 1.44                      | \$1.50                      |
| Grants   | 1,000.00                    |                           | \$1,000.00                  |
| Miscellaneous                                      | 258.50                      | 40.00                     | \$50.00                     |
| <b>TOTAL INCOME</b>                                | <b>\$ 15,010.00</b>         | <b>\$12,689.70</b>        | <b>\$15,201.50</b>          |

| <b><u>ESTIMATED EXPENSES:</u></b>                                |                     |                    |                    |
|--|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Postage/Telephone/Secretarial (Gen Bro)                          | 20.00               | 32.35              | \$35.00            |
| Board Meeting & or Internet Conferencing                         | 50.00               | 0.00               | \$50.00            |
| Newsletter (printing & mailing)                                  | 10.00               | 18.29              | \$25.00            |
| Directory (printing/mailing/phone/postage)                       | 750.00              | 386.02             | \$750.00           |
| Advertising Editor   | 50.00               | 0.00               | \$30.00            |
| Certification Expenses (service to the profession )              | 100.00              | 24.73              | \$50.00            |
| Rally Expenses (gen expenses & travel)                           | 1,150.00            | 1,337.61           | \$1,400.00         |
| ISMTA deposit/exam fees  | 450.00              | 458.00             | \$500.00           |
| IMTF Lending Library   | 50.00               | 0.00               | \$50.00            |
| <b>Competitions</b>  |                     |                    |                    |
| Popplers Music Competition Awards                                | 525.00              | 325.00             | \$525.00           |
| PMC Chair Expenses + Judge + honorarium + mig (181.4)            | 200.00              | 181.40             | \$200.00           |
| MTNA Competition Chair Expenses                                  | 125.00              | 74.92              | \$125.00           |
| MTNA Composition Judge & Chair Expenses                          | 25.00               | 0.00               | \$25.00            |
| MTNA Awards (Composition&Performance.: E/JH-\$25; HS/Col-\$5)    | 400.00              | 100.00             | \$400.00           |
| Competition Judges   | 300.00              | 337.40             | \$350.00           |
| Competition Expenses (tuning/printing/postage)                   | 50.00               | 0.00               | \$50.00            |
| <b>State Conference – Grand Forks 2015</b>                       |                     |                    |                    |
| Conference Expenses  |                     | 50.40              |                    |
| <b>State Conference – Bismarck June 2016</b>                     |                     |                    |                    |
| Conference Expenses  | 3,500.00            | 2,400.00           |                    |
| Commissioned Composer (1500)                                     | 1,500.00            | 1,500.00           | \$1,500.00         |
| <b>State Conference – Fargo June 2017</b>                        |                     |                    |                    |
| Conference Expenses  |                     |                    | \$3,500.00         |
| Membership pins  | 300.00              |                    | \$0.00             |
| WCD / MTNA Competitions Travel Grants<br>(WCD \$100/ MTNA \$250) | 1,000.00            | 200.00             | \$1,000.00         |
| State President's Travel Stipend                                 | 2,500.00            | 2,500.00           | \$2,500.00         |
| State Vice President's Travel Stipend                            | 1,500.00            | 1,500.20           | \$1,500.00         |
| Annual Financial Statement Preparation (postage)                 | 5.00                | 7.94               | \$8.00             |
| Historian  | 50.00               |                    | \$50.00            |
| Web Page - Handmade Designs (plus domain use 15 - 17 )           | 300.00              | 312.37             | \$500.00           |
| Miscellaneous  | 100.00              | 69.13              | \$78.50            |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>  | <b>\$ 15,010.00</b> | <b>\$11,815.76</b> | <b>\$15,201.50</b> |

prepared by Kathy Bresee  
accepted June 15, 2016



## NDMTA Executive Board Meeting

June 15, 2016

State Conference, Bismarck, ND

President Lisa Schuler called the meeting to order. Roll call: Lisa Schuler, Kathy Breese, Darla Sheldon, Eileen Geske, Jeanette Berntson, Gloria Bethke, Mary Motta, Michael Langer, Kathleen Johnson, Ellen Croy, Michelle Schumacher, Vanessa Wold, Sheryl Kjelland, Alisha Harris, Michelle Kallod.

A motion was made by Mary Motta to adopt president's agenda. Seconded by Sheryl Kjelland. Motion carried.

### Officers Reports

Sheryl Kjelland read the minutes from the January 23, 2016 board meeting. Alisha Harris made a motion to accept the corrected minutes. Jeanette Berntson seconded. Motion carried.

Treasures report - Kathy reported the current balance of \$36,155.23. Total income was \$12,689.70 and total expenses were \$11,815.76. A motion was made to accept the budget. The motion was seconded. Kathy stressed that checks need to be cashed within 90 days. She also requested members include their addresses when sending a bill. Kathy read a note from Gate City Bank - we have been approved to go non-profit status.

Vice President/Commissioned Composer report was given by Jeanette Berntson. New VP nominee is Vanessa Wold. Jeanette has been working on the Commissioned Composer presentation, has updated the Vice President job description, attended the national conference in San Antonio, updated the board email distribution list, helped the president as requested and updated the VP job description.

President report was given by Lisa Schuler. Arlene Gray will stay on as Popplers Music Competition Chair. Need co-chair to work with Geradine Ong for Competitions. The Devils Lake chapter will dissolve - 1988 was the last treasurers report. Working with Diana Anderson in Minot about starting a chapter in Minot.

### Committees

2016 conference report was given by Alisha Harris. 36 people registered for the conference. Alisha gave a report of the conference plans.

Advertising - Michael Langer. He is working on getting responses from Universities (Northern University in Aberdeen, NDSU). Michael is resigning his position after his 2 years on board.

Certification/Service to the profession - Karen Kalinowski (absent). Corinne Nustad will be our new certification chair.

Competitions - Sue Nagel (absent) and Geraldine Ong (absent - judging competitions at MTNA, Texas). Sue needs a replacement but will stay on until one is found.

Directory - Michelle Schumacher reported we will be staying with Office Depot who will be able to correct errors from this year's directory. Membership Chair needs to send the new member's information to Directory editor. Reminder to pay dues by July 1. Michelle will send a proof to Michael Langer to check ads with a deadline July 31. After some discussion it was decided to not include 10 year designations as 25 & 50 year designations are included. Discussion to add brief job descriptions to the directory of each board position. Decision made to add job descriptions to website. Michelle S. will add "see job descriptions on the website" to the directory. Kathleen will add the job descriptions to the website as a .pdf. Members will also be asked to add their cell phone numbers in the directory listing.

Foundation - Vangie Parker (absent) would like a couple of names for future foundation fellows. Kathleen Johnson nominated (member unnamed) for possibly 2018. If not 2018, then 2019. Gloria Bethke seconded.

*(Continued on page 14)*

*(Continued from page 13)*

Historian - Darla Sheldon is resigning. Cheryl Docktor will be the new Historian.

IMTF - Ellen Croy. Updated job descriptions that panel participants will receive gratis lunch. The 3 associations that don't host conferences are on a 2-year rotation for the IMTF luncheon.

Membership - Lisa thanked Kathy Breese for filling in as membership chair. Vangie Parker will be new the chair. 117 total members last year. Kathy suggested adding "consecutive" to membership designations. Discussed student chapters - refer to MTNA website or NDMTA directory for specifications. Discussed sending a welcome letter to new members.

Newsletter - Elise Magnus (absent) Article submissions are asked to be in Arial font 12, with 1 inch margins. Looking for new editor.

Nominating - Darla Sheldon. Next year will need to look for new treasurer and secretary.

NODAK (Popplers Competition) - low numbers of participants this year - 3 Elementary, 1 Junior High, 1 High School.

Rally - Sheryl Kjelland – reported 4 ND Rallies with a \$1025.35 profit. Sheryl is working on updated tests and study sheets for levels 1A, 1B and 1C.

Technology - Kathleen Johnson. Kathleen removes anyone from online directory if they haven't paid their dues by November 1. She researched and reported on online conference registration. Cost per online conference registration would be 2.9% (or 2.2% non-profit status) plus \$.30. Discussion was held on mailing registration forms versus only offering online registrations. An approximate additional cost of \$3 would be added to registration costs for online registrations. Board members are asked to talk with their local associations to see who would use online reg. Further discussion on online registrations was tabled until the January 2017 board meeting.

### **New business**

Increasing state dues was discussed, per by laws. Eileen Geske made a motion that state dues stay the same, Michelle Schumacher seconded. Motion carried.

Kathy Breese reviewed 2016-2017 budget. Alisha Harris moved to accept the budget as read. Darla Sheldon seconded. Motion passed.

Nancy Weems has been confirmed for the 2017 conference presenter & recitalist. Geraldine Ong will also present 2 sessions. Discussion was held on conference topics. Nancy will present two lectures/master classes, "Focus on Classical style" and "Focus on Romantic Style."

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Kallod

## NDMTA Annual Business Meeting

June 16, 2016

State Conference, Bismarck, ND

President Lisa Schuler opened the business meeting. A motion was made by to accept the agenda Gloria Bethke. Seconded by Darla Sheldon. Motion passed. Secretary Michelle Kallod read the minutes. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes. Motion passed.

Treasurer Kathy Breese presented her report, which included total income of \$12,689.70 and total expenses of \$11,815.76. Our dues generated \$277.00. The 2016-2017 budget will be \$15,201.50. Kathy stressed the importance of cashing a check within 90 days as our bank, Gate City, will not accept checks after 90 days. State dues will remain the same for 2017-2018.

Vice President Jeanette Berntson gave her report. She kept in contact with Andrew Miller 2016 commissioned composer, as well as Susan Clambey, 2017 commissioned composer. Berntson also attended national conference in San Antonio, updated the board email distribution list, helped the president as requested and updated the Vice President job description.

President Lisa Schuler gave her report. She has contacted several members for open board positions. The Devils Lake chapter is dissolving. Diana Anderson was contacted about starting a chapter in Minot. Schuler attended the MTNA conference. She also assisted the newsletter editor, and is working on the 2017 conference. Schuler thanked Ellen Croy for the IMTF luncheon.

The conference report was given by Alisha Harris, 36 people were registered for the conference.

The Foundation Fund was reported to have donated \$560 for Kathleen Johnson, our 2017 Foundation Fellow.

### **Business**

Lisa Schuler highlighted some Executive Board meeting items. The state directory will be a better print quality than 2016. Members were reminded to pay dues on time (July 1) and to let Michelle Schumacher (directory editor) know their cell phone number to be included in the directory. The board had discussed online registration for future conferences. The decision was made to table discussions of online registrations until January board meeting as the cost per registration would be about \$250-\$300, plus a [PayPal](#) fee per conference registrant of about \$3.00. Conference registrants will also be able to print off the registration form to mail to the conference chair. Lisa encouraged local presidents to discuss online conference registrations with their local associations. She also encouraged local associations to submit happenings for the newsletter to Elise Magnus and to Kathleen Johnson for the website.

The slate of officers and appointment to chair positions was presented by Lisa. A new coordinator is needed for Advertising. Corinne Nustad will take over for Karen Kalinowski as Certification Chair. Historian will be Cheryl Dockter. Membership will be Vangie Parker. Vice President candidate, Vanessa Wold, was presented. Sheryl Kjelland voted nominations cease. Priscilla Keogh seconded. Kathleen Johnson motioned to accept unanimous ballot for Vanessa Wold as Vice President and Jeanette Berntson. Darla Sheldon seconded. Motion passed. Current President Lisa led the installation ceremony which included Jeanette Berntson, President; Vanessa Wold, Vice President.

Mary Motta gave warm welcome to Fargo for the 2017 State Conference, June 7-9, NDSU.

Local Association Presidents gave brief reports on their local happenings.

Jeanette Berntson presented out-going President, Lisa Schuler, with a thank you gift.

Meeting adjourned.  
Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Kallod