



## Letter from the President, Jeanette Berntson

Dear Fellow Music Teachers,

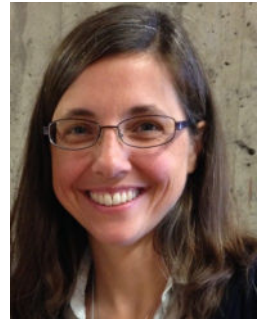
I hope you have had a great start to another school-year of teaching music! Mine began with one of the perks for State Presidents: a fun and beneficial trip to Cincinnati for the MTNA Leadership Summit. I learned information that will help me serve NDMTA better and I had the privilege of visiting and brainstorming with many other MTNA leaders. They taught and encouraged me with their experiences. I even enjoyed early morning walks with some state, regional, and na-

tional leaders. What a blessing to gain new friends through this position!

October brought our Fall NDMTA board meeting. We have a hard-working, positive board. They spend many hours behind the scene to bring us marvelous conferences, competitions, and other resources like Rally and the reference library. At this meeting, they finished everything on my agenda and went on to start planning the 2018 NDMTA Conference! We have exciting conferences coming! We

will hear beautiful commissioned compositions from Susan Clambey (2017) and Michael Langer (2018) and we will grow through rich interactions, sessions, and master classes. Plan to attend the 2017 NDMTA Conference in Fargo on June 7-9 and the Conference in Dickinson, June 2018!

Best wishes as you raise up more musicians,  
Jeanette Berntson, NCTM



## Competitions Report

The Senior Piano competition was held Saturday, October 22 at VCSU. There were 3 entrants who were adjudicated by Dr. Jay Hershberger from Concordia College. The results are as follows:

- ♪ Sean Bostrom - winner from Minot State University; Dr. Dianna Anderson, teacher
- ♪ Eric Bergeman- alternate winner from Sargent Central High School; Eileen Geske, teacher
- ♪ Cindy Wang- honorable mention from Fargo North High School; Dr. Jean Roberts, teacher

In addition to the Senior Piano Winner, the following state representatives will perform at the West Central Division competitions in Boulder, Colorado January 6-8, 2017:

- ♪ Michael Miller- YA string from Concordia College; Dr. Sonja Harasim, teacher
- ♪ Lindsey Eliason- YA woodwind from Minot State University; Dr. James Fusik, teacher
- ♪ Caleb Faul- YA piano from UND; Dr. Nariaki Sugiura, teacher
- ♪ Hannah Veazey- SR string from Minot High School; Dr. Erik Anderson, teacher
- ♪ Madison Hokstad- JR woodwind from Carl Ben Eielson School, Fargo; Debora Harris, teacher



Eric Bergeman, Cindy Wang, Sean Bostrom with Dr Jay Hershberger

## Rally

*Submitted by Sheryl Kjelland*  
Greetings! Are you using your new Rally syllabus? If you aren't, you should be. If you have not ordered one yet, you need to do so, in order to be in step with the test levels, etc. for Rally preparation for you and your students. The cost of this Syllabus is approximately \$37. The last paragraph of this article tells you how to order the Syllabi and workbooks from Illinois.

Study tests have been revised and are available to help prepare your students for the written tests of levels 1A, 1B, & 1C. These Study Tests are not included in the syllabus from Illinois, because the North Dakota Rally Committee put these study tests together a few years ago. The Study Tests for levels 1A, 1B, and 1C will be available at the NDMTA website soon. Or, I will gladly email them to you at no charge. If you prefer, I will print and mail these 3 tests to you for \$2.00 (to cover the cost of printing and postage).

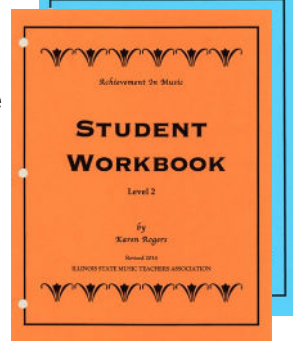
There are four Rallies scheduled so far for this school year, two in November and two in April.

I would again like to mention the theory workbooks that the Illinois Music Teachers Association publishes to complement their Rally materials. Our Rallies in North Dakota are built on the Illinois Rally Materials, so these workbooks work very well in Rally preparation, both for students and teachers.

These workbooks are available to coordinate with the various levels of Rally, beginning with Level 2. These workbooks provide excellent preparation for students who will be taking Rally tests and they provide an excellent learning experience even for students who are not involved with Rally. These workbooks contain exercises in notation, rhythm, terms, music signs, aural skills, harmonization, score analysis, sight reading, transposition,

composers, and they also contain technique skills that are all written out for your student, such as 5 finger patterns, scales, chord progressions, tonic triads, arpeggios. There are play back, interval identification, and dictation examples included for use by teachers and students. I have used these workbooks with my students for several years and I have been very pleased with them. The cost (with postage) is approximately \$8.00 to \$9.00 per workbook.

You can order these workbooks from the Illinois Music Teachers Association. Go to their website [ISMTA.org](http://ISMTA.org) and follow the instructions listed under "AIM Publications." If you have problems with ordering through the ISMTA website, give me a call, and I will do what I can to help. 701-284-7586 or [okjellan@polarcomm.com](mailto:okjellan@polarcomm.com).



## NDMTA Executive Board Meeting, October 15, 2016

President Jeanette Bernston called the meeting to order. Roll call: Vangie Parker, Mary Motta, Michelle Kallod, Cheryl Dockter, Jeanette Bernston, Kathy Bresee, Lisa Schuler, Vanessa Wold, Ellen Croy, Gloria Bethke.

Absent: Arlene Gray, Corine Nustad, Darla Sheldon, Eileen Geske, Geraldine Ong, Karen Dalager, Karen Okerlund, Kathleen Johnson, Michael Langer, Michelle Schumacher, Sheryl Kjelland, Sue Nagel.

### Officers Reports

Michelle Kallod read the minutes from the June 15, 2016 board meeting and June 16, 2016 membership meeting. The June 15, 2016 minutes were approved as corrected. The June 16, 2016 membership meeting minutes were approved as read.

Treasures report - Kathy reported the current assets of \$36,760.98. Total income was \$4,811.39 and total expenses were \$1,177.59.

## Upcoming Events

2017 WCD Central Division	Jan 6-8	Boulder, Colorado
2018 MTNA Conference	March 18-22	Baltimore, Maryland
2017 Popplers Music Competition	June 7	NDSU, Fargo
2017 NDMTA conference	June 7-9	NDSU, Fargo

## State Conference Rotation

2017 Fargo	2018 Dickinson	2019 Grand Forks	2020 Bismarck
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## MTNA Foundation - 2017 Fellow and 2018 Nominated Fellow

*Submitted by Lisa Schuler*

On behalf of NDMTA, I would like to thank Vangie Johnson Parker for her service as Foundation Chair from 2014-2016. Vangie took her position very seriously and helped to honor both Priscilla Keogh and Jan Herr as Foundation Fellows.

I now have the pleasure of overseeing the Foundation program as your past president. The MTNA Foundation Fellow program offers a meaningful method for honoring deserving individuals while supporting the efforts of the MTNA FOUNDATION FUND through a donation to the FOUNDATION FUND in an individual's name.

It is with great joy that I can officially announce that NDMTA has raised its goal of \$1000 in honor of Kathleen Johnson, NCTM! She will be our 2017 Foundation Fellow! Kathie has been a committed and active member of NDMTA her entire professional life and has mentored new members, such as myself. She made sure that when I became a piano teacher that I knew all about NDMTA and its benefits. She asked me to be a charter member with her when the Durum Triangle MTA was started in 1990. Since then she has been active at the local and state level and has pushed me to do so as well.



I would like to thank all of our NDMTA members who donated to the foundation in honor of Kathie! We had 6 members contribute during the 1st quarter and they were Eileen Geske, Marjorie Johnson, Karen Kalinowski, Anne Morris, Vangie Parker and Linda Wallevand. The following 19 members donated during the 2nd quarter; Gloria Bethke, Ellen Croy, Cheryl Dockter, Eileen Geske, Arlene Gray, Paula Grosinger, Jean Guenther, Marjorie Johnson, Priscilla Keogh, Sheryl Kjelland, Beth Klingenstein, Elsie Magnus, Mary Motta, Michael Olson, Cathie Scheid, Mary Schneider, Michelle Schumacher, Darla Sheldon, and Vanessa Wold. Finally, our 3rd quarter brought in 7 donations from Maxine Beseler, Robert Groves, Janice Herr, Anne Morris, Susan Nagel, Lisa Schuler, and Darla Sheldon.

It is now time to announce our next member that the executive board has nominated to be our 2018 Foundation Fellow. Drum roll please...it is Arlene Gray of Bismarck, ND! Arlene has graciously accepted the nomination and we will now raise money in her honor. Her biography will be featured in the January newsletter. Congratulations, Arlene!

Local Associations and individuals can make checks to "MTNA Foundation Fund" and be sure to write "Arlene Gray" on the memo line so that it will be assigned to her fellowship. Send checks to Kathy Bresee, our state treasurer, and she will forward them to MTNA for you. People can also donate online at [mtnafoundation.org](http://mtnafoundation.org). Be sure to type "Arlene Gray" where indicated.

*(Executive Board Meeting, continued from page 2)*

Vice President/Commissioned Composer report was given by Vanessa Wold who has received and reviewed VP files from Jeanette Bertnson. She is communicating with Susan Clambey, 2017 Commissioned Composer and has submitted Andrew Miller's (2016 Commissioned Composer) files to MTNA for the Distinguished Composer of the Year Award.

President report was given by Jeanette Bertnson who has received and reviewed files from past president, updated executive board contact list and member email list, found chair for Poppler's Music Competition and Newsletter Editor. She also sent recital cards for ASCAP, sent in final report for ND Council on the Arts grant. Received updated board member job descriptions, received a signed contract from Nancy Weems (2017 state conference presenter), proofed directory. Attended leadership summit in Cincinnati. Looking into grant possibilities. Searching for Advertising Editor to replace Michael Langer.

## **Committees**

Advertising - Michael Langer (absent). Michael is resigning his position after his 2 years on board. The position involves emailing or sending letters to various universities and/or music stores to advertise in our directory or website. The board position is appointed by the president and renewed annually. New chair will need to send letters in the spring. He has raised \$1225 in advertising sales and is communicating with Northern State University in Aberdeen, SD to secure their \$100 for their printed directory ad.

2017 Conference Committee Report – Mary Motta. June 7-9 at NDSU. Insurance and facilities have been secured. Mary will begin recruiting volunteers for various committees. Mary would like to know if people took advantage of the one-day option of \$50 and if online registration will be available?

Certification/Service to the profession – Corinne Nustad. She will be contacting each FMMTA member who is not certified. She would like to know when each local chapter meets so she can visit each local to talk about certification.

MTNA Competitions - Sue Nagel (absent) and Geraldine Ong (absent). The competitions are set for October 22 at Valley City State University.

Directory - Michelle Schumacher (absent). She asks to be patient as she continues to work with Office Depot to resolve issues with the printing.

Foundation – Lisa Schuler. As of Sept 30, we have raised \$1000 to honor Kathleen Johnson as our 2017 Foundation Fellow. 2018 Foundation Fellow, Arlene Gray, has accepted the nomination.

Historian - Cheryl Dockter is the new Historian. She has been exploring different ways of scrapbooking the photos that Darla Sheldon took at the State Conference last June.

IMTF – Lisa Schuler encouraged members to look through and utilize the IMTF library resources. Corinne Nustad will present on Certification at the 2017 luncheon. Lisa is looking for ideas on 2018 luncheon topic.

Membership – Vangie Parker sent several welcome letters to new members. She encouraged members to visit with local universities and colleges to promote MTNA and NDMTA. To date, we have 105 members. Vangie will research if ND members who have been re-instated to determine their years of membership in NDMTA. MTNA doesn't keep records of re-instated members.

Newsletter -.Michelle Kallod. August issue has been published and delivered. Will begin seeking articles for next issue.

2018 Commissioned Composer – Vanessa Wold. Discussed 2018 nominations. Michael Langer was voted to be the 2018 Commissioned Composer.

Nominating - Darla Sheldon. Advertising position open now. In 2017 we will need to look for new treasurer and secretary.

Rally - Sheryl Kjelland (absent) would like to receive notification of each local's rally date. She is working on updating Levels 1A, 1B & 1C Study Tests and Written Tests.

Technology - Kathleen Johnson, has updated the website leadership page, directory and ads. She would like to discuss separating web advertisements from directory and newsletter ads. This proposed change is due to the fact that web ad payment timelines differ from directory and newsletter ad deadlines.

### **New business**

Treasurer – Kathy Bresee, a volunteer is needed to audit the books. Discussion held on the auditing process, timeline and the possibility of a rotation schedule between local associations. Cheryl Dockter will check with her local association.

2018 Conference in Dickinson dates, venue and presenter discussed. A vote was cast and Jeannette Berntson will ask Catherine Rollin to present. A vote of June was cast for a conference date. Cheryl Dockter will check with Dickinson State University on June 2018 open dates.

Soon opening board positions – Advertising (open now), Secretary (open 2017), Treasurer (open 2017). Need nominations and/or volunteers.

Foundation (Lisa Schuler) - Discussed financial assistance from the state to help foundation fellow to go to the national conference. Discussed changing designation from silent auction at the state conference to go from travel grant for competition students at West Central Division or National towards foundation fellow travel grant instead. Discussed announcing at the state convention the purpose of the silent auction funds and encouraging conference attendees to give towards travel grants towards for either competition participants or foundation fellows. Discussion tabled until January board meeting.

Charitable Fundraising (Kathy Bresee) – There is a new law that Charitable Organizations need to register with the Secretary of State in any state where they raise donated funds. This applies to NDMTA & MTA local associations which raise money for the MTNA Foundation or other projects. We will not need to file with MN, as our budget is not that high. ND local associations will need to register with ND and go through a registration process. Kathy is working through the process with Diana Viltrakis at MTNA headquarters to get questions answered and fill out the "Registration Statement".

State Conferences needing grants – 2017 Fargo could apply for \$1000 ND Council on the Arts Professional Development matching grant which has a deadline 4 weeks before the conference. Dickinson (2018), Cheryl Dockter will need to form a budget to determine if funds are needed.

2017 Conference discussed other presenters. Discussed and voted to approve conference session proposals from Geraldine Ong: 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> Century French style through the piano works of Maurice Ravel and Understanding harmonic progressions in Baroque music. Discussed and voted to approve Diana Anderson's MTNA conference presentation on "The Two-Part Invention Gap: A Case for Polyphony in Early Piano Study."

In past conferences, NDMTA has paid mileage to local presenters and judges. Discussed paying presenters \$100 honorarium plus mileage. A motion was made by Lisa Schuler to pay all in state presenters at state conferences \$100 per session plus mileage if necessary. Gloria Bethke seconded. Motion passed.

Discussed inviting South Dakota, Montana and Minnesota MTNA members at our member rate to our conferences. We would not include the first time member discount. A motion was made by Mary Motta to invite neighboring states to our state convention at the regular member rate, excluding first time conference discount. Kathy Bresee seconded. Motion passed.

Michelle Kallod, Editor  
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[www.ndmta.org](http://www.ndmta.org)

### **Local Reports**

Badlands, Cheryl Dockter – getting ready for Extravaganza on December 3. IMC scholarship winners will be performing at upcoming meetings.

Bismarck/Mandan, Vanessa Wold – wrapped up 2016 Conference details. Local is starting monthly “coffees” to gather at someone’s home or a coffee shop to discuss current studio happenings.

Fargo/Moorhead, Mary Motta – each month trying technology tip, a 3-5 minute presentation by a local member.

Greater Grand Forks, Gloria Bethke/Karen Dalager– utilizing local UND faculty and members for presentations

Langdon Area, Lisa Schuler – fall Rally, 37 students. December playing at a local community event. Working with Geraldine Ong and Upper Valley Local on a Duo Recital in April. Mentoring a new piano teacher in her community.

Northwest, Ellen Croy – Local members listened to an IMTF library CD on Gillock preludes. Each member invited another teacher in the community to attend their meeting. Rally is planned for November 19.

Upper Valley, Sheryl Kjelland (absent) – working with Langdon to host a Duo Piano Recital with Geraldine Ong and an associate in April. Rally is planned for April. Also planning an Honors Recital.

Valley City, Eileen Geske (absent)

Jeanette read a letter from NODAK Popplers participant, thanking NDMTA for the competition.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Kallod