



# NDMTA NEWSLETTER

September 2017

## Letter from the President, Jeanette Berntson

Hi, NDMTA Friends,

It was wonderful to visit many of you at our state conference in June! I am blessed to know you!

Thank you, Fargo-Moorhead MTA for all your work hosting us! Thanks also to the NDMTA board for your ideas and planning. Everyone enjoyed the pedagogical insights from Nancy Weems, Geraldine Ong, and Dianna Anderson. We delighted in the Commissioned Composition, "Suite Trio," by Susan Clambey as well as the performances by the Popplers Music Competitions participants and the recital by Nancy Weems. Read the articles in this newsletter for a glimpse of this outstanding conference!

Set aside June 13-15, 2018, to come to Dickinson for our 2018 NDMTA Conference! I will let you know who our presenters and performers will be soon! You can count on another fantastic program next year!

As you look ahead to another school year of lessons, you might be looking for specific insights or tools to help you. NDMTA and MTNA have many resources available to you. Check out my "Tip of the Month" emails. Let me know if you would like me to connect you to these or many other resources!

Wishing you wisdom and joy in your teaching,  
Jeanette Berntson, NCTM



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Dear NDMTA Colleagues,

The Badlands Music Teachers Association would like to extend an invitation to you to attend the 2018 NDMTA State Conference in Dickinson, June 13-15. Those who have not been "out west" for some time will experience a different Dickinson. Things have settled down a little, but it is definitely a larger and more vibrant community of which we are very proud. June is a beautiful time of year, especially in the Badlands if you care to venture a bit further west.

Our conferences are always a wonderful way to reconnect with good friends, make some new ones, enhance teaching skills and be well entertained. Ken Boulton with his wife, JoAnne Barry, will be presenting at next year's state conference in Dickinson! They will teach a few masterclasses, give an educational recital of American post WWII music, and teach a lecture on children's literature by well known composers. After hearing their presentations at many of our local associations, we will be excited to hear what else they have to share with us! We promise to do our best to make your time with us worthwhile and enjoyable, so please add this event to your calendar and we will look forward to seeing you next June.

Sincerely,  
Priscilla Keogh  
Badlands MTA

## 2017 NDMTA Conference Wrap-Up

*By Mary Motta*

We had wonderful Conference, June 7-9, at NDSU in Fargo. There were 44 registered participants, 6 of whom attended the one-day option. From the opening Popplers Winner's Recital and Commissioned Composer Concert to the final session with Nancy Weems, we had many opportunities to grow and share in music. We found friends, made new friends and also said "Goodbye" to our dear friend, Geraldine Ong. We enjoyed amazing concert music, listened and gained insights from our clinicians and speakers, visited music vendors and discovered practical ideas for teaching through sharing meals and breaks with members across our state. Thank you to each one of you who attended and participated. Our Conferences unite us and keep our state association strong and vibrant. We're looking forward to next June in Dickinson!



Vanessa Wold, Mary Motta & Jeanette Berntson

## 2017 NDMTA Conference Recitalist

*by Sister Bernadette Trecker*

We were privileged to have Nancy Weems perform a recital at our NDMTA State Convention. (See the program pieces listed on the right.) Here are some reactions to this wonder filled performance:

- Many said "Awesome".
- I liked the wit in the presto of Haydn.
- What was said in her morning's conference made me know what to listen for and it made the music more interesting. For example, I could hear all the melody notes even in the runs.
- It made me want to cry. I had only done that once before in an orchestral performance years ago.
- As a singer I felt her playing had words.
- It was easy to listen and enjoyable because she brought out all the melodies.
- She gave life and expertise to the Baroque, Classical and Romantic styles.

### **Nancy Weems, Piano**

Thursday, June 9

7:30 PM

Beckwith Recital Hall, NDSU

Schafe Können Sicher Weiden ( <i>Sheep May Safely Graze</i> )	J. S. Bach (1685-1750)
	arranged by Mary Howe (1882-1964)
Sonata in E Major, Hob. XVI: 31	Franz Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)
(Moderato)	
Allegretto	
Presto	
Three Mazurkas, Op. 59	Frédéric Chopin (1810-1849)
Moderato in A Minor	
Allegretto in A-Flat Major	
Vivace in F-Sharp Minor	
Fantaisie in F Minor, Op. 49	
	Intermission
Arabesque, Op. 18	Robert Schumann (1810-1856)
Chaconne in D minor (from Violin Partita No. 2)	J. S. Bach (1685-1750)
	arranged by Ferruccio Busoni (1866-1924)

## NDMTA Session #1 - Core Values of Classical Style Presented by Nancy Weems

*Submitted by Lisa Schuler*

Guest clinician, Nancy Weems, presented on the "**Core Values of Classical Style**" through a lecture-master class combination. Her presentation followed her hand out, which covered the following values of the Classical style of music:

**Sonata-Allegro Form and Tonality:** Shifting tonal centers creates the drama of the form and tells the musical story. The pieces are musical journeys where we love the feeling of resolution. It's important to be grounded in the key. She played Mozart's K.332 for an example.

- **Symmetry/Balanced Phrasing:** Typically there are clear, symmetrical four-bar phrases.
- **Melody:** Clear expressive contours, points of arrival, and rounded-off resolutions in Classical Period music. Tip: To achieve a delicate lift on 2-note slurs, walk in toward the fall board (slide finger on the key) on the first note and lift on the 2nd note.
- **Dynamic Range/Contrasts:** Use of crescendos, much expanded range, and sudden contrasts
- **Virtuosity/Clarity:** Increased instrumental virtuosity - scales, arpeggios, passagework, requires technical precision, clarity, sparing use of the pedal. Fun fact: Van Cliburn's mother made him "sing" every note before he was allowed to go to the piano and play the piece in order to instill the melody and if he couldn't sing every note while playing it, he was playing too fast!
- **Rhythm:** Greater variety of rapid changes of rhythmic patterns, harmonic rhythm-feeling of emphasis according to speed of harmony changes
- **Wit:** Importance of the comic element - surprising changes to create witty effects. Mozart, Hayden, and Beethoven had fun with dynamic contrasts.

The lecture was followed by two students of NDMTA members who performed pieces from the classical period. Nancy was able to touch on these values within the lesson with each student. Getting rejuvenated about our music history was a great way to start our conference! Keep these values in mind when teaching your next Classical Period piece to your students.



## Focus on Romantic Style, Presentation by Nancy Weems

By Vanessa Wold

Romance...awwww, sweet, fluttery, giddy, tense, dramatic, intimate romance. The adjectives associated with the word 'romance' emit and stir emotion. In music, romantic style is just that. Emotional. Dramatic. Nancy Weems explained in great detail the core values of Romantic Style in music during the 2017 NDMTA State Conference.

There are five main characteristics of Romantic Style which Nancy Weems shared. First is the importance of the individual and the artist; personal expression. "The rise of 'art for art's sake'" demands a huge range of expressive emotion. Second is form - the emergence of the 'character piece'. Romantic form is a smaller work, not a sonata with several movements, with descriptive titles portraying mood, a picture or story. Form is also put in a larger set called a cycle. Expressive romantic style pieces include *Nocturne* (Chopin), *Ballades* (Brahms), *Kinderszenen* (Schumann), *Years of Pilgrimage* and *Constellations* (Liszt), *Song Without Words* (Mendelssohn).

The third characteristic is tonality and harmonic language. Tonality is stretched to the limit; shifting harmony to create color. Cadences are delayed to create tension and drama along with unexpected shifts of harmony. An example of this is Chopin's *Nocturne* which begins with a standard simple melody and harmony, then shifts to beautiful emotional coloring. Pedaling is often held through conflicting harmony and passing tones for blending and a 'wash out' effect.

Characteristic number four is extreme contrasts; intimacy vs. brilliance. In modern terms...DRAMA! DRAMA! DRAMA! Everything was challenged and pushed to the limit. The piano as an instrument was improved, allowing for stronger technical contrasts. Hence, virtuosity was prevalent and pushed by composers, all leading to increased public performance. The fifth and final characteristic detailed by Ms. Weems was rhythm, specifically rubato. Rubato allows interpretation and personal expression as no one plays the same. However too much rubato can lead to structure loss. Ms. Weems stated, "Can't see the forest from the trees; stopped to smell too many flowers on the path". Schumann's *Traumerei* (Daydreaming) is an example given for this fifth characteristic. Chopin said, "the right hand is the branches of the tree and the left hand is the tree itself, grounded and unmoved", explaining the expressive feeling for the melodic line.

Listening to and learning from Nancy Weems was exhilarating and greatly appreciated. A final couple tips she shared really stuck with me. She said, "trying to explain music in words is like trying to dance to architecture". She also recommended comparative listening; playing four (4) different recordings of a piece by good artists to develop a good sense of the piece.



## June 7, 2017 NDMTA Executive Board Meeting Minutes

President Jeanette Berntson called the meeting to order. Roll call: Jeanette Berntson, Vanessa Wold, Vangie Johnson Parker, Corinne Nustad, Sue Nagel, Darla Sheldon, Michelle Kallod, Sharon Gogleman, Ann Morris, Eileen

Geske, Mary Motta, Kathleen Johnson, Lisa Schuler, Kathy Bresee, Gloria Bethke, Sheryl Kjelland. Absent: Karen Dalager, Arlene Gray, Karen Okerlund

### Officers Reports

Secretary report - The minutes from the Jan 21 2017 executive board meeting were approved as written.

(Continued on page 10)

## June 9, 2017 NDMTA Annual Meeting Minutes

President Jeanette Berntson opened the business meeting. A motion was made by Carole Flatau to amend the agenda by adding a vote on the budget. Seconded by Priscilla Keogh. Motion passed. Mary Motta read the minutes in the absence of Michelle Kallod. The minutes were approved as read. Treasurer Kathy Bresee presented her report. Total income was \$15,778.47 and total expenses were \$15,346.56. Dues were \$2,572.50. Kathy presented the budget. A motion was made by Jan Herr to adopt the budget as presented. Seconded by Kathleen Johnson. Motion passed. Kathy reminded everyone it is important to cash checks within 90 days. The books were audited in early 2017 by Upper Valley association.

Vice President Vanessa Wold reported working with Susan Clambey, our Commissioned Composer, on all details for the premier. She reported all of her activities and communications. She attended MTNA Conference in Baltimore, MD.

President Jeanette gave her report which included activities and responsibilities during the year. She attended MTNA Conference in Baltimore.

Mary Motta gave the Conference report which noted there were 44 people registered, 6 of whom were registered for one day only. The IMTF Luncheon count was 39 and the Banquet 45. She thanked everyone for their patience with the new parking pass requirements at NDSU.

Lisa Schuler, Foundation Chair, reported over \$200 had been donated for Arlene Gray, our 2018 Foundation Fellow.

Jeanette gave a few highlights from the Executive Board Meeting which included a vote to keep our state dues the same; \$25 for active membership, \$20 for seniors age 70 & above, and \$10 for collegiate.

Jeanette acknowledged Geraldine Ong with a gift, as she will be moving to Texas.

Chairs for positions on the board were read, which include: Anne Morris - Advertising Coordinator, Corinne Nustad - Certification/Service to the Profession, Sue Nagel - MTNA Competitions, Michelle Schumacher - Directory Editor, Lisa Schuler - Foundation, Cheryl Dockter - Historian, Lisa Schuler - IMTF, Vangie Parker - Membership, Michelle Kallod - Newsletter Editor, Darla Sheldon - Nominating, Karen Okerlund - Popplers Music Competition, Sheryl Kjelland - Rally and Kathleen Johnson - Technology.

Still needed is a Co-Chair for MTNA Competitions.

Nominations for treasurer were opened. Cheryl Dockter nominated Michelle Kallod for treasurer. Seconded by Vanessa. Priscilla Keogh moved that nominations cease, seconded by Sharon Gegelmann. Motion carried. Nominations for secretary were opened. Lisa Schuler nominated Sharon Gegelmann for secretary. Seconded by Vanessa. Kathy Bresee made a motion that nominations cease, seconded by Anne Morris. Motion carried. Kathy Bresee was given a rose as out-going treasurer. The installation ceremony proceeded for Michelle Kallod as treasurer and Sharon Gegelmann as secretary.

Cheryl Dockter gave an invitation to the 2018 NDMTA Conference, June 13-15, in Dickinson.

New business: the idea of an NDMTA facebook page was briefly discussed.

Local Association Presidents gave short reports on their activities.

Up-coming Competition dates were read as well as dates for MTNA's 2018 Conference in Florida.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Motta

# The Two-Part Invention Gap: A Case for Polyphony in Early Piano Study

Presentation by Dr. Dianna Anderson, Minot State University

*by Vanessa Wold*

"What do you think of at the mention of 'two-part invention'?", asked Dr. Dianna Anderson of the audience at the 2017 NDMTA State Conference. Answers given include counterpoint, hands separate, polyphony...and additive! Anderson then asked to think about the first Bach Two-Part Invention you played. What was it? Chatter filled the auditorium. Typically it's #8, in F Major.

The study of polyphony music, as in two-part inventions, has a multitude of benefits. These benefits include making your brain work (not just your fingers), providing a gateway for more challenging music, developing a sense of good articulation, hand independence, an appreciation of and preparation of Baroque style.



Along with benefits, there also poses challenges to playing and teaching polyphony. Rushing, coordination and opposing articulation are the top offenders. Anderson offers this tip to remedy rushing: don't start at the beginning. Regarding coordination, typically the right hand is dominant, leaving left hand subordinate. And then there's opposing articulation...Anderson provided numerous literature examples for application.

These challenges aid in the thought that polyphony is not perceived as "fun," but more like exercises. The vegetables of piano lessons, so to speak. It's never fun to play an invention until the student can play it, right?

So then, how do you pedagogically fill the gap between early piano study and the ability to play cleanly in two parts? Rhythmic study, appropriate repertoire progression and movement activities, of course! Hands clap while feet stomp different rhythms improves reading and coordination. Call and response techniques, elided phrase imitations, and canonic imitations in repertoire progressions promote hand equality and independence. Movement activities such as mirroring (imitation), interrupted canon and uninterrupted canon utilizing 4 specific exercises promote awareness and coordination of two parts. These exercises not only obtain good inventions but develop a strong sense of analysis and discovery. Analysis is a huge thing, looking at music in an abstract way, striving to achieve a cantabile style in playing.

Anderson shared a few final tips. Singing is imperative! Show meaning and shape in harmony, and at the same time acquire a strong foretaste of composition. Anderson shared this perfectly suited quote by Robert Schumann, "Frequently play the fugues of good masters, above all, those by JS Bach. Let his "Well Tempered Clavier" be your daily bread. By these means you will certainly become a proficient."

# 19th & 20th Century French Style through the piano works of Maurice Ravel

## Presentation by Geraldine Ong, Valley City State University

*By Vangie Parker*

Dr. Ong explained that musicians applied the term "Impressionism" to the music of Debussy and his imitators because they interpreted their subjects in a similar impressionist manner. The themes conveyed the moods and emotions aroused by the subject rather than a detailed tone-picture. Some of the technical features of musical impressionism included new chord combinations which often had ambiguous tonalities. Chords of the 9th, 11th and 13th were used instead of triads and chords of the 7th. The Appoggiatura was used as part of the chord. Whole-tone chords, exotic scales and extreme chromaticism were utilized as well. Melodies typically lacked directed motion and an avoidance of traditional music form.



### Characteristics of "Impressionism":

- Extended harmonies; 7th, 9th, 11th, 13th, etc. unique scales and modes
- Unique timbres
- Musical layers
- Descriptive titles
- Programmatic music- a compositional technique which flourished so in the romantic era. Music was based on a pre-conceived work (literary, art, etc.)
- Homage to predecessors

Dr. Ong gave a very entertaining lecture as she introduced us to the publication: "The Complete Piano Works of Maurice Ravel". We were encouraged to listen for "colours, images and dance-like themes as she played excerpts from the following:

- Serenade Grotesque
- Menuet Antique
- Pavane pour une infante defunte "Pavane for a Dead Princess"
- Jeux d'eau-"Clay of water or Fountains" - written in whole tone scales
- Sonatine
- Miroirs
  - Noctuelles
  - Oiseaux Tristes
  - Une barque sur l'ocean
  - Alborada del gracioso
  - La vallee des cloches "Valley of Bells"- written in the Pentatonic Scale
- Gaspard e la nuit "Gaspard of the night"
- Ondine "The Water Nymph"
  - Le gibet
  - Scarbo (Technically the most difficult of the collection)
- Menuet sur le nom d'Haydn (In the manner of Haydn)
- Valses nobles et sentimentales
- A la maniere de Borodin (In the manner of Borodin)
- A la maniere de Chabrier (In the manner of Chabrier)
- Prelude
- Le Tombeau de Couperin -written in the Dorian Mode
  - Prelude
  - Fugue
  - Forlane
  - Rigaudon
  - Menuet
  - Toccata

### 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Century French Style Through the Piano Works of Maurice Ravel

*by Laura O'Rourke*

Geraldine Ong delighted us with her presentation on the impressionistic work of this period. She mentioned composers such as Debussy, Faure, Saint-Saens and Ravel and focused her talk on the music composed by Ravel. She has studied all of his works.

Dr. Ong said his music is very challenging, both technically and musically. His chords are difficult to read, with added notes and new chord combinations. Sometimes his compositions would include three staves. Geraldine noted that finger independence was imperative when playing Ravel's music, with its musical layers of three and sometimes four.

Ravel enjoyed using the distance of intervals and unique scales and chords, such as pentatonic, to create new and different timbres. When listening to his music, one can hear blues notes.

Ravel orchestrated many of his piano works and also orchestrated ballets. Geraldine noted that when playing some of his works, she will vary the attack or release to imitate the slow attack of a flute, for example. We enjoyed her demonstrations of Ravel's compositional style.

## Popplers Competition Highlights and Commissioned Composer Premiere

Wednesday, June 7 was a delightful evening as two events took place in the Beckwith Recital Hall at NDSU. The Popplers winners' recital was held with five talented pianists performing one piece of their repertoire that had been performed earlier in the day for Dr. Jay Hershberger. The following students participated in the event: Catelyn Goodman (teacher Lisa Schuler), Melinda Chen (teacher Sue Nagel), Ben Diers (teacher Karen Okerlund), Emma Winje (teacher Karen Okerlund) and Ella Zhang (teacher Gloria Bethke). Melinda was the winner in the elementary division, Ben won in the Junior High division and Emma & Ella were co-winners in the High School division. We were pleased that a representative from Popplers was available to present the prizes. Teachers are strongly encouraged to enter students in the competition next year in Dickinson. Congratulations to the pianists and their teachers!



Popplers Competition Participants



Kristin Carlson, Susan Clambey & Elise Nelson

Susan Clambey, a member of the Fargo-Moorhead Music Teachers Association, was our NDMTA commissioned composer and performed her original composition "Suite Trio" for an appreciative audience. The new composition included three segments, thus a Suite, consisting of a Trio of sections. It was also presented by superb instrumentalists on three instruments; Kirstin Carlson on flute, Elise Nelson on cello, and Susan on piano thus a "Sweet Trio." The three sections were titled "Hope," "Joy," and "Trust" with the following motifs for each section: "Hope for Peace today," "Sing now with Joy," and "Trust in the Lord with all your Heart."

## MTNA State Competitions

*By Sue Nagel, MTNA State Competition Chair*

MTNA state competitions will be held Saturday, October 28, 2017 on the campus of VCSU. Applications can be retrieved on the MTNA website and are due September 13. Winners in each category will advance to the Division competition January 12-14 at the University of Iowa in Iowa City, Iowa. Please check out MTNA's easy to use, updated website for all competition information.

Since there is no competition co-chair, I would love (and tremendously need!) a couple of extra members to help with time keeping and door monitoring. Rehearsals will be scheduled in the morning, and competitions will start immediately after. Please contact me by email: [nagstur@cableone.net](mailto:nagstur@cableone.net) or cell: 701-361-0193. Thank you!



## Convention Banquet, June 8, 2017

The formal convention banquet was beautifully set in Reineke Hall Lobby, with white cloth covered tables and lovely centerpieces. Musical entertainment was provided by Herb Parker, playing an eclectic variety of piano tunes and vocal pieces on an acoustic upright piano. Herb ended his portion of the program by performing a stunning piece of his own creation. The NDSU meal servers were clearly well instructed and served the meals quickly and carefully.

President Jeanette Berntson greeted everyone and thanked the Fargo group for the many arrangements for the convention. She introduced Vangie Parker, who had membership awards to present. Carole Flatau received a 60-year award from NDMTA. Carole graciously accepted the award and made favorable comments on the growth provided to her through membership and activity in NDMTA. She was recognized by a standing ovation by a proud group of members and guests. Vangie then awarded 25-year membership recognition to Laura O'Rourke and Nicole Antonenko. 10-year recognition went to Arleen Norton, Mia Presteng, and Paige Kaiser-Rezac.

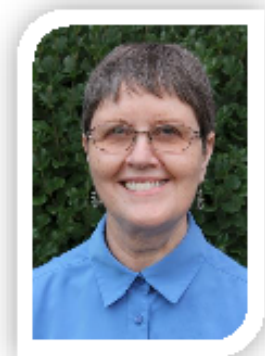
Lisa Schuler spoke on the Foundation Fellow Award. This year's nominee is Arlene Gray of Bismarck. Arlene read her biography that was sent to MTNA. Following the reading, monetary donations were collected. Lisa reminded members that North Dakota ranks high with national because of the number of \$25 donations toward the Foundation Fellow Award. The fund is only \$50 short of the \$1,000 goal.

The convention banquet ended with folks preparing to attend the evening concert by recitalist Nancy Weems.



Carole Flatau Receives 60 Year Award

## 2018 Foundation Fellow Update



*By Lisa Schuler, NDCTM NDMTA Foundation Chair*

*The fundraising for our next Foundation Fellow, Arlene Gray, is going very well! During the first quarter, NDMTA members raised \$130.00. During the second quarter, we raised a whopping \$708.00. The majority was collected during the banquet at the NDMTA State Conference in Fargo. Those that contributed in the second quarter were: Gloria Bethke, Cheryl Dockter, Sharon Gegele, Arlene Gray, Kathryn Greene, Jean Guenther, Jan Herr, Kathleen Johnson, Marjorie Johnson, Priscilla Keogh, Sheryl Kjelland, Laura O'Rourke, Karen Okerlund, Michael Olson, Mary Schneider, Michelle Schumacher, Darla Sheldon,*

*Wanda Wavra, Sandy Wiesenberger, Vanessa Wold and Monica Wolff. A huge thank you to all who have donated in Arlene's honor! We now need just \$162.00 to reach our required goal of \$1,000.00. Please consider donating to the MTNA Foundation Program. You can donate on the MTNA website or send a check to the MTNA Foundation. Be sure to designate it to Arlene Gray. Here's hoping that we have a 2018 Foundation Fellow by our next newsletter in November!*

## IMTF Luncheon

*By Wanda Wavra*

The IMTF Luncheon was held in the beautiful lobby of Reineke Hall at NDSU. Corinne Nustad led the session entitled "Are You a Teacher or a Learner?".

Corinne shared an article with us about a music teacher in her nineties who is still learning. Corinne emphasized how we need to be curious and learn about all kinds of things. Whether or not one decides to become nationally certified, working on the five projects that are required for national certification is an excellent question.

Corinne guided us through the projects. Together we did:

Project #1 – Write Your Teaching Philosophy. We had a few minutes to work on a statement of our educational goals.

Project #2 – Analyze Four Teaching Pieces. Questions were provided to guide us through an analysis of Sonatina Op. 36 No. 1 by Clementi.

Project #3 Present Your Teaching. Corinne demonstrated a lesson with "student" Jeanette Berntson. They worked on Gavotte in CM by Handel. Corinne started with making comments and asking questions about the composer and the musical time period. They also analyzed the piece before the student played each hand alone.

Project #4 Share Information About Your Teaching Environment. Music played from the internet, pictures that relate to music students are playing, incentive charts, and a ukulele are some of the things Corinne uses in her studio.

Project #5 Discuss Your Studio Business Ethics and Policies. Each table discussed how teachers can deal with students, or colleagues or parents in different situations.

Contact Corinne Nustad if you are interested in more information about National Certification, [corinne.nustad@gmail.com](mailto:corinne.nustad@gmail.com).

Other ways to improve your teaching and learning are webinars, blogs, conferences, e-conferences. Teachers wishing to brush up on theory can look into Minnesota Music Teachers Theory Books or the Rally Syllabus and Theory Work Books.

*(Continued from page 4)*

Treasures report - Kathy Bresee. The books will be audited when the position changes. MN is not necessary for "Charitable Donations". Discussion held on ND Charitable Donations next steps. Jeanette, Kathy and the next elected treasurer will discuss the details to determine next steps. Kathy requests bills be sent with name and address and not as a .jpeg file. [Lisa Schuler moved that we recommend the 2017-18 budget to the annual general membership meeting. Corinne Nustad seconded. The motion is](#)

[adopted.](#)

Vice President/Commissioned Composer reported communicating with Susan Clambey, Commissioned Composer, and Mary Motta in regards to the Commissioned Concert Premier. Attended MTNA in Baltimore.

President report was given by Jeanette Berntson who worked on the 2017 State Conference, attended MTNA in Baltimore, wrote & sent a contract to Catherine Rollin for presenting at 2018 conference, and updated NDMTA web page on MTNA's site.

**Committees.**

Advertising - Anne Morris has agreed to fill the advertising position. She is continuing to work on contacting potential advertisers and securing their advertising fees.

2017 Conference Committee Report – Mary Motta. 44 registered for NDMTA 2017 conference, 6 of these registrants are for 1 day. Mary strongly suggests future convention committees get quotes on room rates in writing from hotels. Many members from FMMTA helped with welcome baskets, silent auction, vendor communication,

*(Continued from page 10)*

welcome banners, hospitality bags, door prizes, table and stage decorations, printing, dinner music and the Popplers Music Competition.

Certification/Service to the profession – Corinne Nustad. Received from MTNA ranking of states in certification - ND is 11th with 20.8% certified. 25.9% is the highest certification rate. Received nominations and selected a non-NDMTA member to receive Service to Profession award at NDMTA banquet on June 8.

MTNA Competitions - Sue Nagel. VCSU will host Competition on Oct 28, 2017.

Directory - Michelle Schumacher is working on updates for the directory.

Foundation – Lisa Schuler. Kathleen Johnson, 2017 Foundation Fellow, attended MTNA Gala. Our next fellow is Arlene Gray. Lisa is looking for a music business to sponsor a “Foundation Fellow Travel Grant” with the hope that a sponsor will commit \$300-\$500 each year for travel expenses. In February, ND & NE won MTNA Foundation Fund State Incentive Giving Campaign. NDMTA rated 1<sup>st</sup> in highest percentage of members contributing at 33%, with the next highest percentage of Maine at 25%. NDMTA also ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in the highest percentage of members contributing \$25 or more at 21%, with the next highest as Maine at 14%.

State Historian – Cheryl Dockter prepared scrapbooks for 2017 convention.

IMTF – Lisa Schuler has been assisting Corinne Nustad who will be presenting at the IMTF Luncheon at the Convention.

Membership – Vangie Parker, re-

ported 97 regular memberships. Local associations need to encourage members to pay dues before June 30. She encourages members to reach out to non-members and remind them of the benefits of NDMTA/MTNA membership (problem solving assistance, fellowship, encouragement, sharing of ideas, informational MTNA Webinars, Piano Rally, great monthly programs/performances/speakers).

Nominating – Darla Sheldon. MTNA Competitions needs a new co-chair.

Newsletter - Michelle Kallod sent out May issue and is working on August issue.

Popplers Competition Chair – Karen Okerlund has secured Jay Hershberger as a judge. Don Langlie, Popplers, agreed to fund the competition next year.

Rally - Sheryl Kjelland. Profit was about \$658.81. Four Rallies were held in 2017: LAMTA & Northwest MTA in November, UVMTA & FMMTA in April.

Technology - Kathleen Johnson has updated the website with current NDMTA conference forms and has checked all links to ensure they are working. Kathleen encourages Local Associations to send pictures of their activities and asks all members to pay their dues by June 30 to ease efforts in keeping the database up to date.

**Old business – none discussed.**

### **New business**

Annual review of raising State Dues for 2018-2019 discussion held. Discussed if there was a need in the budget to increase dues, or if an increase in Rally fees would help the budget. Sheryl

Kjelland moved that we raise the Rally registration fee to \$15 per student. Lisa Schuler seconded. Motion passed.

Darla Sheldon moved that we leave membership dues as they currently are. Anne Morris seconded. Motion passed.

2018 Dickinson Conference - Discussed potential presenters and their stipends.

Grand Forks 2019 State Conference – UVMTA will help out with their conference needs.

### **Local Reports**

Badlands, Cheryl Dockter – 10 boys participated in The Boys Only Recital with admission proceeds used for IMC scholarships. Three students were awarded \$100 each for IMC scholarships. Planning 2018 State Convention.

Bismarck/Mandan, Vanessa Wold – Held Scholarship Auditions in April, followed by presentation of “Effective Practice Strategies” by Geraldine Ong. Also hosted a Masterclass with Dr. Nariaki Sugiura.

Fargo/Moorhead, Mary Motta – Recent meeting presenters and topics are Herb Parker “Composers from the Romantic Period”, Charlotte Moe “Kodaly Methods and Konversation”, the Cozmoz String Quartet from Concordia and winners of the Iva Fillebrown Scholarship Competition. Rally was held in April with 89 students representing 15 teachers.

Greater Grand Forks, Gloria Bethke/Karen Dalager – Recent programs included presentations by Dr. Anita Gadberry on Music Therapy, master class with Dr. Nariaki Sugiura, member discussion on “Off to a Good Start – Read-

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ing Notes”, “What Does Musical Mean? – Robert Schumann” and two GGFMTA Spring Recitals. Concern was expressed of a small membership trying to host a convention.

Langdon Area, Lisa Schuler – co-hosted April 29 Duo Recital by Geraldine Ong & John LeTellier Jr.

Northwest, Ellen Croy – viewed MTNA Webinar “Cyber Security: Safety on the Information Highway”.

Upper Valley, Sheryl Kjelland – Rally was held April 1

with an honors recital April 26. Co-hosted April 29 Duo Recital with Langon Area. Composition workshop is scheduled for Sat, Oct 28 featuring Amy Jo Paukert & Sharon Westbrook.

Valley City, Eileen Geske – no report.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Michelle Kallod

## Upcoming Events

2017 MTNA Competitions	October 28	VCSU, Valley City
WCD Competitions	Jan 12-14	Iowa City, Iowa
2018 MTNA Conference	March 17-21	Lake Buena Vista, FL
2018 Popplers Music Competition	June 13	DSU, Dickinson
2018 NDMTA Conference	June 13-15	DSU, Dickinson, ND

## State Conference Rotation

2018 Dickinson      2019 Grand Forks      2020 Bismarck