



Letter from the President, Vangie Johnson-Parker

Greetings and Happy Spring...finally!! Along with the (somewhat) warmer weather, end of year programs, concerts and spring recitals, we mark the end of our 2018-2019 season. It has been a busy last few months.

I had the honor of representing NDMTA at the MTNA Conference in Spokane, WA this past March. Our Foundation Fellow, Corinne Nustad was unable to attend. I accepted her award at the Gala in her place and presented it to her at our local FMMTA Spring Brunch in May. I also had the opportunity to network with other state Presidents, attend inspirational concerts and fascinating sessions. There was so much to learn, see and do that it was almost overwhelming. (I will share some of what I learned in an another portion of this newsletter).

Please note the changes to our 2019 Conference...The University of North Dakota advised our conference committee in late May/early June that other arrangements would need to be made for a conference venue. Heavy construction on campus has led to difficult detours, long walks to event centers and unpredictable air conditioning/heating systems. Popplers Music Store has graciously stepped in to allow us to have all of our activities in the store! This has certainly been a frustrating situation for our host committee and we are grateful for their quick thinking ! If you haven't made your reservations or registered, please do so today. You won't want to miss out on all that is planned for you! See you there!

Vangie Johnson Parker

NDMTA Annual Conference

Members of the Greater Grand Forks Music Teachers Association are pleased to welcome you to the 2019 North Dakota Music Teachers Association Conference, Wednesday through Friday, June 19-21. Conference events will be taking place at Popplers Music Store. The State Board will meet at the Conference Hotel, Ramada Inn.

Wednesday and Thursday evening concerts will be free and open to the public. This is an opportunity for you to invite your students and others interested in music to benefit from our Conference and become acquainted with NDMTA.

All local associations and individuals are invited to bring items for the Silent Auction. Your imaginative, useful, and/or beautiful contributions will add to the fun of the conference as well as raising money for a good cause.

Hopeful that you will find the conference helpful and inspiring!

Kathryn Greene, 2019 NDMTA Conference Registration Chair

701-775-3420

cell: 701-215-4164 (may be used as an emergency contact during the conference)

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MTNA National Conference Reflections

By Dianna Anderson

The national conference was a great experience for me this year, and I hope that all of my fellow NDMTA members will consider attending in Chicago next year. As I attended the various concerts and sessions, I was struck by the thought that there really is something for every kind of music teacher at the national conference.

My conference experience began with a chance encounter with Autumn Zander, a colleague from International Music Camp who lives in the Twin Cities area. It ended with dinner at the airport with Beth Klingenstein, our newly elected secretary/treasurer at the airport before flying back to Minot. In between were many reunions, both planned and surprise. The music world really is small!

I attended the opening plenary session with Chopin scholar Alan Walker. For such a well-regarded scholar who spends much of his time in a library, he was a witty and engaging speaker. The topic was Chopin, and playing the music of Chopin. I am partway through reading his new biography of Chopin, and highly recommend this book to all musicians.



As a graduate of the University of Idaho, I was excited to see my teachers and mentors, Jay and Sandra Mauchley give a presentation on preparing and performing piano ensemble music. It was a true delight to hear them play again, and to pick up some great pointers on ensemble repertoire. My other favorite sessions from the conference were "Anxiety and the Adolescent Student" with Lesley McAlister, "Articulating Bartok" with Victoria Fischer Faw, "What Every Piano Teacher Should Know About Jazz, But Probably Doesn't" with Jeremy Siskind, and "Interpreting Markings in Chopin" with Fred Karpoff. Slides and handouts are available for many of the sessions on the MTNA website, and I encourage all members to take advantage of this resource, even though they might not have been able to attend. I also noticed that Jeremy Siskind's presentation was duplicated as a recent webinar.

Other highlights were the Barry Synder masterclass, and Ingrid Fliter piano recital. It is always inspiring to see people at the top of our profession doing what they do best!

With so many varied experiences available, I was unable to attend even a fraction of the sessions and performances that I wanted to, and very much look forward to repeating the experience next year in Chicago. See you there!

The Most Celebrated Composer You've (Probably) Never Heard of...

Leopold Kozeluch and his 50 piano sonatas

By Vangie Johnson Parker

During Mozart's final years, Leopold Kozeluch surpassed Mozart's popularity and became even more celebrated than Amadeus himself. So who was he?

Ann M DuHamel, NCTM, (Of U of M, Morris, MN), gave a wonderful and well-researched session at MTNA on Kozeluch and some of his sonatas. Here is some of what we learned:

- Leopold Kozeluch was a Czech composer who wrote 50 piano sonatas for "The Liebhaber and the ladies." These works are cheerful, dancelike and provide a pleasant and refreshing introduction to classic-era sonatas for the late-intermediate student.
- Kozeluch was hired by the Kapellmeister after Mozart's refusal to work for less than an acceptable wages. Kozeluch was promptly hired and paid double Mozart's salary!
- He was one of the most popular teachers of the time. In fact, he was piano teacher to Napoleon's second wife, Marie Louise, Duchess of Parma.
- Kozeluch was apparently an arrogant and smug individual who came from a higher social station than many composers of the day. He was eventually dubbed "The Miserabilis", a term which was a reflection of his antagonistic manner.



Beth Klingenstein & Vangie at the MTNA Gala

Check out some of the following compositions and examples featured in the presentation. What do you think?

- Sonata No. 24 in D minor Op. 20, 3/I Moderato (1786)
- Sonata No. 31 in F Major Op. 35, 1/II Adagio (1791)
- Sonata No. 46 in C Major (No Opus number or date) Allegro ma non tanto
- (My favorite) Sonata No. 50 in E Major II Larghetto No Opus number. Circa 1810



*By Vangie Johnson Parker,
Foundation Chair*

Foundation Fellow Facts

Did you know that Gloria Bethke has been teaching piano and organ since 1961? Did you know that she is our 2019 Conference Chairperson? We are proud of her contributions to the profession of teaching music and her continued involvement with NDMTA and MTNA. Please remember to give generously in order to assure her recognition at the National MTNA Conference in Chicago (March of 2020)!

Did you know that Corinne Nustad was our 2019 Foundation Fellow? She was recognized at the MTNA Conference in Spokane, Washington

(Continued on page 11)

National Piano Teachers Convention in Spokane

By Anne Morris

SESSION : Practicing Like a Pro by Dr. Robert Henry

Mindset of a Professional

- Goal setting drives everything
 - ◇ It is important to set goals before practicing.
- Strong work ethic and commitment to craft/projects is essential for anything worth doing.
- Patience, discipline and experience
 - ◇ It takes all of this to repeat many times a difficult passage
- Positive belief in oneself and ability to learn quickly
 - ◇ We limit ourselves by thinking we can only achieve a certain amount, but we likely can accomplish more than we think.
- No room for self-indulgence/impulsiveness
 - ◇ Whatever a student hates doing they must do it anyway as this can lead to discovering what they are actually capable of.
- Identify your own personal BS
 - ◇ When a student thinks they can only learn something slowly, that is what they will do.



Vangie Johnson Parker, Marvin Blickenstaff & Anne Morris

The Science of How We Learn

- Forgetting Curve and Spaced Repetition
 - ◇ Don't play a passage the same way with each repetition; vary the dynamics, rhythm, articulation. It is not OK to play a passage 9 times incorrectly, then once correctly, and assuming that you have learned it.
- Attention Span: 7-20
 - ◇ The students (most) should practice in groups of 20 minutes with 7 minute breaks.
- Ultradian Rhythm Cycle: 90/20
 - ◇ So, students generally should practice for a total of 90 minutes in 20 minute chunks with the 7-minute breaks in between.
- Short-term Memory: Lasts only 10-30 seconds
 - ◇ To memorize a small section, it takes correct repetition of at least 7 times to get it into long-term memory.
- "Magic Number Seven" Repetition/Habituation
 - ◇ Repeating a difficult passage 7 times correctly is the goal.
- Chunking, Association and Encoding
 - ◇ Do smaller chunks of music and gradually increase it. To help the student learn the section, draw their attention to how the notes form a chord – have them play the chords before breaking them up.

(Continued on page 5)

The Ideal Practice Session:

- Flow/Automaticity/Simulate Performance Experience Immediately
 - ◊ The student should imagine performing to be prepared for the reality.
- Learn New Repertoire/Maintain Old
 - ◊ The teacher should require both learning the new repertoire and practicing the old to keep the student encouraged and not bored.
- Sound/Musical Style
 - ◊ Students should know the style of music they are playing, which are all played differently.
- Right Notes (Slow)/Right Rhythms (slow)/Right Choreography (fast)
 - ◊ When first starting to practice, play the right notes and rhythms slowly. After doing this correctly, then a student needs to play up to tempo with that section. Playing up to tempo can require different fingering and choreography.
- Theory, Harmony, Form
 - ◊ Students should understand how the piece is constructed.
- Emotion/Story/Image
 - ◊ It helps the student to connect the music to some past experience or make up a story or how it makes them feel.

Three Smart Things to do Every Day

- Scales/arpeggios/technical regimen every day
 - ◊ Every day practice technique for 15 minutes.
- Warm ups that support goals for the session
 - ◊ Practice the scales and chords that relate to the piece being worked on.
- Practice the beginning of the piece, and practice beginning the beginning.
 - ◊ Study the score away from the piano. Practice from the beginning as if you are performing successfully. Stay in the zone mentally.



*North Dakota MTNA members at the convention:
(L to R) Vangie Johnson Parker, Dianna Anderson,
Anne Morris & Beth Gigante Klingenstein*

Three Super-Dumb Things to Avoid

- Practicing slowly all the time
 - ◊ In order to achieve the correct articulation, a student must play up to speed eventually the section they are working on.
- Memorizing "later"
 - ◊ Students should begin memorizing the section being worked on immediately.
- Not writing stuff down
 - ◊ Students need to write down the phrasing, fingering, and so forth of a piece.

Upcoming Events

| | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------|---------------------------------|
| 2019 NDMTA Conference | June 19-21 | Popplers Music, Grand Forks, ND |
| 2019 MTNA State Competitions | October 26 | VCSU, Valley City, ND |
| 2019 WCD Competitions | December 4 | Video Performances |
| 2020 MTNA Conference | March 21-25 | Chicago, Illinois |
| 2020 Popplers Music Competition | June 3 | NDSU, Fargo, ND |
| 2020 NDMTA Conference | June 3-5 | NDSU, Fargo, ND |

North Dakota Music Teachers Association Annual Conference

Wednesday-Friday, June 19-21, 2019

Popplers Music (note change of venue)
1726 South Washington Street, Suite #5

Grand Forks, North Dakota

Registration Form

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Telephone: Home _____ Work _____ Cell _____
E-mail _____
NDMTA Member: Yes No Local Association _____

Registration Fees: (not including meals)

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Full Conference – member | \$100 _____ |
| Full Conference – non-member | \$120 _____ |
| First Time Attendee <u>or</u> Student <u>or</u> One Day Only (member) | \$ 50 _____ |
| One Day – non-member | \$ 60 _____ |
| Thursday _____ Friday _____ | |

Meals: Wednesday: Board Meeting/Supper -Ramada Inn – order from menu
Luncheon and Banquet must be prepaid, includes gratuities and taxes.

Thursday: IMTF Luncheon & Program – Popplers Music \$15 _____
Three-Salad Luncheon, Dessert and coffee

Thursday: Banquet – Ramada Inn (choose from options below)
Includes tossed salad, dinner rolls, new potatoes, green beans almondine

Peach Balsamic Chicken \$26 _____

Baked Stuffed Pork Chop-Herb Dressing \$26 _____

Pasta Primavera (vegetarian option, no potato) \$26 _____

Please indicate if you need gluten free _____ or have a food allergy _____

Late Registration Fee: (Postmarked after May 30th) \$15 _____

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Mail completed form and **check payable to NDMTA** to:
Kathryn Greene, 902 Campbell Drive, Grand Forks, North Dakota 58201-6920

Conference Hotel: Ramada Inn, 1205 N. 43rd St., Grand Forks ND 58203

Phone: 1-800-757-3951 www.ramadainngrandforks.com

Twenty rooms will be reserved until May 19 at \$65.00 plus tax for double room or king room.

Please ask for the North Dakota Music Teachers Association block.

LaQuinta Inn & Suites, 4051 Garden View Drive, Grand Forks, ND 58201

Phone: 701-575-3600 www.lq.com

Twenty rooms will be reserved until May 19 at \$84.60 plus tax.

Please ask for the ND Music Teachers Association block.

Refunds:

Registration fees are nonrefundable except for emergencies and illness.

Should such a conflict arise, the registration fee, minus all food costs, will be refunded.

Please contact Kathryn Greene at 701-775-3420 or kgreene@gra.midco.net

AND send a written request to:

Michelle Kallod, 668 17th Ave. East, West Fargo, ND 58078.

NDMTA CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

June 19-21, 2019

Popplers Music

1726 South Washington Street, Suite #5,

Grand Forks, North Dakota

Wednesday, June 19, 2019

- 9:00 am - 3:30 pm Popplers Music Competition Rehearsals and Auditions
Popplers Music
- 4:00 pm Board Meeting
Ramada Inn Meeting Room, Choral Room
Order from Menu
- 6:00 pm Registration - Popplers Music
- 7:00 pm Official Opening - Free and Open to the Public
Popplers Music Competition Recital
Cello & Piano Concert, Dr. Erik Anderson & Dr. Dianna Anderson
Popplers Music
Reception to follow

Thursday – June 20, 2019

- 8:30 am – 9:00 am Registration & Coffee, muffins, fruit
Popplers Music
- 9:00 am – 10:15 am Session I – Wynn-Anne Rossi
“Creative Composition in the Studio”
- 10:15 am – 10:45 am Break – Silent Auction, Vendors, Displays
Refreshments
- 10:45 am – 12:00 pm Session II – Wynn-Anne Rossi
“Jazzy Notes and Wild Stories”
- 12:15 pm – 1:30 pm IMTF Lunch - “The Beat of a Different Drum”
Popplers Music
- 1:45 pm – 2:45 pm Business Meeting
Popplers Music
- 2:45 pm – 3:15 pm Break
- 3:15 pm – 4:30 pm Session III – Wynn-Anne Rossi
Alfred Showcase
Popplers Music
- 5:30 pm Banquet
Ramada Inn, Coronado Room
- 7:30 pm Concert - Free and Open to the Public
Matthew Lorenz & Matthew Sebal, Guest Recitalists
Popplers Music
Reception to follow

NDMTA CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Friday, June 21, 2019

Popplers Music

1726 South Washington Street, Suite #5,

Grand Forks, North Dakota

Friday, June 21, 2019

- 8:30 am Registration; Coffee and Muffins
Popplers Music
- 9:00-10:15 am Session IV - Wynne -Anne Rossi
"American Music: Jazz Meets Latin"
- 10:15 - 10:45 am Coffee - Silent Auction closed at 10:45 am
- 10:45 - 12:00 pm Session V - Dr. Nariaki Sugiura
"The Rests in Music: Creative Ways of Using Rests in Performance"
Popplers Music

Conference Presenter - Wynne-Anne Rossi

Wynn-Anne Rossi is a renowned composer with vibrant educational outreach. Her compositions have inspired audiences across the United States and around the world. She has over 120 publications, primarily for piano, which are widely distributed online and in music stores. Her repertoire also includes works for vocal and chamber groups, concert band and orchestra. Various commissions have been sponsored by Minnesota Public Radio, the National Endowment for the Arts, Music Teachers National Association and the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra.

Wynn-Anne specializes in bringing the art of composition to every musician. She has been offering composition residencies throughout the country since 2003, inspiring thousands of students to write their own music. Partnerships have included the MUNDI Project (UT), Linda Luebke String Festival (IN), St. Paul Chamber Orchestra (MN), and many more. Rossi has also written two comprehensive series which encourage young pianists to compose: *Music by Me* (5 books, with Kevin Olson) and most recently, *Creative Composition Toolbox* (6 books). Her new video series, *Wednesdays with Wynn-Anne*, is now available for curious composers of all ages and levels.

Active as a presenter, Wynn-Anne is known for her innovative lectures, workshops and master-classes. Her educational voice has moved beyond the borders of the United States to include Iceland, Sweden and Mali. She presents on a wide variety of subjects including American music, inspired by her two popular series, *Musica Latina* and *Jazzin' Americana*.

Rossi was educated at the University of Colorado in theory and composition. Further training included choral conducting at Harvard University and jazz pedagogy through the University of Illinois. She has also studied under Pulitzer Prize recipient Aaron Jay Kernis.

For more information, visit www.rossi-music.com.



Conference Presenter - Dr. Nariaki Sugiura



Music critics have raved about Nariaki Sugiura's performances in Europe with such accolades as "the most sensitive touch on the piano," and "possessing the rigueur, passion, and discipline of an old Samurai." International concert artist Nariaki Sugiura has performed solo recitals and concerto engagements in the U.S., Europe, South America, and Asia at some of the most prestigious concert halls including Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, Symphony Hall at Shenzhen Concert Hall (China), Ferenc Liszt Music Academy Recital Hall (Hungary), Daejeon Arts and Cultural Center Hall (South Korea), Manoel Theater (Malta), Kioi Hall (Japan), and Museo de Arte (Puerto Rico). He has appeared as soloist with the Greater Grand Forks Symphony Orchestra, Bismarck-Mandan Symphony Orchestra, UND Chamber Orchestra, and many others. His arrangements for chamber ensembles and piano ensembles have been frequently performed, and he has also conducted his ensemble arrangements.

A devoted teacher as well as performer, Dr. Sugiura has become of the leading piano pedagogues of his generation. He has given piano master classes at numerous institutions such as Civico Istituto Musicale "V. Baravalle" (Italy), Gheorghe Dima Music Academy (Romania), Staatliche Hochschule für Musik und Darstellende Kunst in Mannheim (Germany), Xinghai Conservatory of Music (China), National Kaohsiung Normal University (Taiwan), Ewha Womens University and Sunhwa Arts High School (South Korea), Universitas Pelita Harapan (Indonesia), St. Paul's College (Hong Kong), University of Minnesota, and many other music institutions around the world. Currently he is Associate Professor of Piano and Collaborative Piano at University of North Dakota while also holding visiting faculty position at East China Normal University in Shanghai. His students have received prizes and scholarships from local, regional, and national music competitions. Previously, he has taught at DePauw University, Indiana University, and Lamont Summer Pre-College Music Academy in Denver, and Guangdong University of Foreign Study in China. While he was at Indiana University, he worked for legendary cellist Janos Starker as a studio pianist. He has been an adjudicator for many national and international piano competitions in the US and Asia.

Sugiura has recorded eight CD albums for such labels as Klavier Records, Eroica Classical Recordings, T. K. Music Productions and Indiana University Latin American Music Center. His performances have been featured on television and radio, broadcast nationally and internationally. Active as an editor, his editions of chamber music scores are published by Ludwig Masters Music Publications.

A native of Japan, Nariaki Sugiura began piano studies with his mother at age five. Under the tutelage of Michel Block and Shigeo Neriki, he received his Master and Doctor of Music in Piano Performance degrees from Indiana University Jacobs School of Music. Other prominent teachers include Alicia de Larrocha, Friedrich Schurr, Naomi Ebihara and Leonard Hokanson. He has won prizes at numerous competitions, including the 1999 and 2000 Indianapolis Matinee Musicale Competition Top Prizes. He was laureate of the 1993 National Music Competition in Tokyo and of the Annual Competition of Music from Spain and Latin America in 1999.

A native of Japan, Nariaki Sugiura began piano studies with his mother at age five. Under the tutelage of Michel Block and Shigeo Neriki, he received his Master and Doctor of Music in Piano Performance degrees from Indiana University Jacobs School of Music. Other prominent teachers include Alicia de Larrocha, Friedrich Schurr, Naomi Ebihara and Leonard Hokanson. He has won prizes at numerous competitions, including the 1999 and 2000 Indianapolis Matinee Musicale Competition Top Prizes. He was laureate of the 1993 National Music Competition in Tokyo and of the Annual Competition of Music from Spain and Latin America in 1999.

Drs. Dianna & Erik Anderson—Wednesday Concert at Popplers Music

Dr Dianna Anderson performs regularly with various musical groups, including the Minot Symphony Orchestra, Western Plains Opera Company and her colleagues at Minot State University as well as guest artists. The 2015-2016 season saw her performing as soloist with the Bemidji Symphony Orchestra and the Minot Symphony Orchestra and more recently at the Lee Piano Festival at Augusta University in February of 2019.



Dr. Dianna Anderson has performed as soloist with the University of Idaho, Washington-Idaho, Billings, Mont., Helena, Mont., and Great Falls Symphonies. In 1996 she began her graduate work at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, earning a Master of Music in Piano Performance in 1998, and doctor of musical arts in piano performance in 2004.

Dr. Erik Anderson, earned his BM and MM from the University of Idaho, and completed his DMA at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. He joined the faculty at Minot State University in Minot, N.D., in 2003. During his professional performing career, Anderson served as associate principal cellist for the Cincinnati Ballet Orchestra and the Richmond Symphony, where he also held the position of assistant conductor, and has also performed with the Cincinnati Symphony, Opera and Pops. Together with his wife, Dianna, and violinist Jon Rumney, they formed the trio "Luminus" in 2004. The group has given more than 50 performances in concert halls and public schools around the North and South Dakota Region.

Popplers Music Competition

By Karen Okerlund

I hope all of you are preparing your students to compete in the Popplers Competition on June 19, 2019. The competition will be held at Popplers Music.



All the rules of the competition are included in the Handbook/Directory on pages 31-36. If you have any questions about anything, feel free to contact me at 701-237-5949 or jackgarni@midco.net and I will try to answer the inquiries.

All of the music in the piano competition must be memorized.

I encourage each of you to support the students who have registered in this Competition! If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at 701-799-1542 or jackgarni@midco.net

Conference Recitalist - Matthew Sebald

Winner of the 2016 Bismarck-Mandan Symphony Orchestra Concerto competition and UND's 2015 Mozart Piano Concerto competition, runner-up for the 2017 Greater Grand Forks Concerto Competition, and UND's Presser Scholar 2017-2018, Matthew Sebald charms audiences with his passion and attention to musical details. At his performance of the first movement of Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 19 with the UND Chamber Orchestra, Matthew was praised as a "dedicated musician" by maestro Alejandro Drago. He is a recent graduate of the University of North Dakota, earning his Bachelor of Music degree in Piano Performance under the tutelage of Dr. Nariaki Sugiura.

During his time at UND, Matthew has been an active performer, collaborator, and chamber musician. As a collaborative pianist, Matthew has experience in playing for strings, brass, vocal, and woodwinds, which he acquired through working with students and teachers alike. His most recent engagement was a trip to the XVIII World Saxophone Congress in Croatia where he collaborated with Dr. Scott Sandberg (UND) in the premiere of Catherine McMichael's Duality for tenor saxophone and piano. In fall of 2016, he collaborated with Professor Eric High, a professional bass/contrabass trombonist, on the professor's guest faculty recital. Matthew has also proven himself to be an accomplished soloist. He gave recitals each year of his undergraduate career and soloed with the UND Chamber Orchestra and the Bismarck-Mandan Symphony Orchestra. He competed at the Regional level of the Music Teacher's National Association Young Artist Competition in Wichita Kansas. In addition to his

training from Dr. Sugiura, Matthew has performed in master classes conducted by Professor Lydia Artymiw, Dr. Alan Chow, Dr. Siyoun Lin, Professor Mihaela Tomi, Dr. Laura Lowen, Dr. Jihye Chang, and John Clodfelter. As a chamber player, Matthew was a member of a piano trio during his sophomore and junior years. This led to him being selected as the pianist of 2017 UND Red River Trio, a piano trio which performs throughout the school year, culminating in a trip to Japan for performance engagements. Matthew has also shown skill in large ensembles; he was the harpsichordist/pianist for UND chamber orchestra for the 2017-2018 school year and has been a substitute pianist for the Greater Grand Forks Symphony Orchestra on different occasions.

Currently, Matthew is working full-time as an independent collaborative pianist, mostly working with students at UND. He was selected as a member of UND's 2018 Piano Ensemble. This group performed solo/ensemble works in the Grand Forks area in the fall of 2018 and in November visited Shanghai, China, where they performed a unique program featuring 0-8 hands on the piano. In fall of 2020, Matthew plans to pursue his Masters degree in Collaborative Piano.



(Foundation Fellow, continued from page 3)

this past March. Unfortunately, Corinne was unable to accept the award in person. Vangie Johnson Parker, our state President, accepted it on her behalf at the Conference Gala. Corinne was formally presented with her award at the FMMTA Spring Brunch in Moorhead. She received a well deserved round of applause from all members in attendance.

Left photo: Vangie Johnson Parker accepting Foundation Award at MTNA

Right Photo: Corinne Nustad, 2019 Foundation Fellow

Conference Recitalist - Matthew Lorenz

Matthew Lorenz is a growing artistic presence in the Grand Forks community and the Midwest at large. He is a recent graduate of UND, studying piano performance with Dr. Nariaki Sugiura as well as a second degree in mathematics. Beginning piano lessons at the age of 9 with Susan Nagel, he was a performer throughout high school in Fargo, North Dakota and won several local and state competitions.



While at university, he has continued to refine his technique through performance and competition: most notably, he has had several recent concerto performances Franz Liszt's 'Totentanz' with the Bismarck-Mandan Symphony Orchestra, the Greater Grand Forks Symphony Orchestra, and the Bemidji Symphony Orchestra. As well, he has received training from a wide variety of pianists, either in a master class setting at the University or elsewhere, playing for artists and professors from all around the world such as Edward Auer (Indiana University), Peter Bithell (Guild Hall), Lydia Artymiw (University of Minnesota), Pavlina Dokovska (Mannes College) Jani Parsons (Latitude 49 ensemble, MI), Takeo Tchinai (Japan), Yoonie Han (Steinway Artist, NY), Mihaela Tomi (Mannheim, Germany), Ning-Wu Du (Xinghai Conservatory, China), Laura Loewen (University of Manitoba), and others. Matthew's performance experience extends from Bismarck, ND to Chicago, IL: he has collaborated with a wide variety of musicians, such as the award-winning artist San Francisco Bay Area pianist Sarah Cahill.

More recently Matthew has made chamber music a priority, as a member of the Red River Trio (UND's premier piano trio), the UND Piano Ensemble, and in various duo settings (cello, flute, voice). Alongside these musical studies, Matthew has expanded his understanding of performance through other pursuits such as musical compositions (standard ensembles, electronic/computer music, sound art), ethnomusicological and phenomenological research, philosophy, literature, children's musical theater and teaching piano lessons, chess, weightlifting, cooking, and more.

2019 NDMTA Silent Auction

By Lisa Schuler

As is the tradition, the annual NDMTA Silent Auction will take place during the State Conference in June. The money raised from this auction is used to help with travel grants for students who win in the MTNA Competitions.

Have you decided what Silent Auction item(s) you would like to bring to the NDMTA Conference yet? Have you set aside some extra cash to purchase items at the Silent Auction?



We are hoping that every local will bring a special item for the auction and that individual members can donate items as well! We request that items be new, of good quality and affordable for piano teachers. Baskets of items are always nice, businesses may be interested in donating items and homemade items are always a treat! Please attach the value of each donated item so that we can better estimate a good starting amount for the auction. Please bring your auction items to the registration table when you arrive. Viewing and bidding will take place throughout the conference with the winners being announced at the end of the conference on Friday, June 21st.

Your support in this fun tradition is appreciated! If you have any questions, contact Lisa Schuler at lschuler@utma.com.