



NDMTA NEWSLETTER

March 2020

Letter from the President, Vangie Johnson-Parker

We saw many changes in our studios and in NDMTA over the last few years. We will undoubtedly see more changes as we look forward to a new decade. I am anxious to see what is in store for us as we enjoy the benefits of NDMTA and meet new challenges together!

Our NDMTA Conference is scheduled for June 3-5 in Fargo, ND at NDSU. Marvin Blickenstaff will be our main presenter and he has entertaining and educational sessions prepared for us. Mr. Blickenstaff has received the Music Teachers National Association's Achievement Award along with many other prestigious honors. We are delighted to welcome him to North Dakota once again.



You will find the 2020 Conference Registration and Schedule of events in between the pages of this newsletter. Please be sure to register early. Our conference committee has been working very hard to bring you the best opportunities possible. We want to be sure you take advantage of all that is offered!

I wish you a happy, healthy and safe 2020!

NDMTA Annual Conference

Greetings from Fargo, North Dakota!!

I am so excited to be sharing with you some plans for the NDMTA State Conference to be held June 3-5, 2020, on the campus of North Dakota State University!!

Starting out on the first day the Popplers Competition will be held. I want to thank Popplers of Grand Forks for their generosity in providing for this event. You will find the registration form in this newsletter, so check for students of yours that would like to compete! Let's get many signed up!!

Conference will officially open at 6 PM, with a concert following featuring the winners of the Popplers competition, and the composition "A Brief Story" for trumpet and marimba, by composer Dr. Nicholas Meyer. You will NOT want to miss this!!

Our conference presenter will be Marvin Blickenstaff, known among piano teachers throughout the country for is teaching, lecturing, performing, and publishing. He currently maintains a private studio in the Philadelphia area and teaches at The New School for Music Study in Princeton, formerly known as the Francis Clark Institute. We are all excited to meet him, especially since his mother was from ND!

One other presenter will be our own Christian Heaford with "Fine Tuning the 'Action' of a Piano Technician" on Friday morning.

Thursday evening's concert will feature the trio "Excelsior" with Deb Harris, Jay Hershberger, and Russell Peterson. Another wonderful and entertaining performance you will NOT want to miss!

Please refer to the registration form and schedule included in this newsletter for more information.

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NDMTA Executive Board Meeting, Jan 25, 2020

President Vangie Johnson Parker called the meeting to order. Roll call: Vangie Johnson-Parker, Sharon Gegelmann, Dianna Anderson, Michelle Kallod, Gloria Bethke, Kathleen Johnson, Sue Nagel, Karen Okerland, Corinne Nustad, Lisa Schuler, Jean Guenther, Priscilla Keogh, Cheryl Dockter.

Officers Reports

Secretary: Minutes from the October 19, 2019 board meeting were posted online. Two corrections to the minutes were made. There should be 7 new members not 17. And NDCS should be changed to NDCA. Minutes were approved as corrected.

Treasurer: Michelle Kallod reported assets of \$41,096.95, income of \$2,835.44 and expenses of \$8,089.13.

Vice-President/Commission Composer: Dianna Anderson reported that she has registered for the national conference.

She has also gained permission from MSU to form a collegiate chapter. The first meeting was Jan. 16. A motion to accept the new collegiate chapter at MSU was made by Lisa Schuler, 2nd by Priscilla Keogh. Motion carried.

Several composers were recommended for the 2021 commissioned composer. Sean Neukom was selected by a unanimous vote.

President: Vangie Johnson Parker reported that she will be attending a meeting on Feb 28 with Dianna Anderson and Lisa Schuler to plan the 2021 conference in Minot. They will also discuss suggestions for the new Collegiate Chapter at MSU.

All the contracts for the 2020 conference in Fargo have been sent out, but not all are yet signed.

Since we are now not eligible for the NDCA grant, we are currently looking for other grant suggestions.

Committees

Conference: Corinne Nustad presented the conference registration sheet. Full conference will

be \$100, 1 day \$50, and non-members \$120. Late registration fee will be \$15. This year a parking pass will be required which will be \$2/day, or \$6 for the full conference. Lunch will be \$15, Banquet \$26. Kathleen Johnson moved, Gloria Bethke 2nd to accept the registration sheet. Motion carried.

The conference schedule was presented. It was suggested to add the following at noon on the last day – closing remarks, door prizes and silent auction results. Priscilla Keogh moved and Dianna Anderson 2nd that the conference schedule be approved with changes. Motion carried.

Advertising: Anne Morris – nothing new to report

Certification: Corinne Nustad – nothing new to report

Competitions: Sue Nagel reported that she will be contacting VCSU in March to set a competition date.

Directory: Michelle Schumacher reported that she is adding new members as they are sent in.

Foundation: Vangie Johnson Parker noted that \$1555 has been raised for Gloria Bethke our 2019 Foundation Fellow. She will be recognized at the National Conference in Chicago. Unfortunately Gloria will not be able to attend the conference in Chicago this upcoming March. Dianna Anderson will accept on her behalf. Our 2020 Foundation Fellow is Marge Johnson. No contributions have yet been received for Marge Johnson.

Historian: Jean Guenther – nothing new to report

IMTF: Sheryl Kjelland reported that they are considering options for the June conference. Any suggestions would be welcome. Williston will be in charge of the IMTF luncheon for the 2021 conference.

Membership: Lisa Schuler reported that we have 62 regular, 29 senior, 7 new members and 10 student members. She asked that members keep sending in articles to post on Facebook.

(Continued on page 3)

(Executive Board Meeting, continued from page 2)

Newsletter: Michelle Kallod stated that the next deadline for the newsletter is Feb 10.

Nominating: Priscilla Keogh reported that the Vice-President position is open. If anyone is interested please contact Priscilla. Anne Morris was also appointed to the nominating committee.

Popplers Competition: Karen Okerland reported that Jay Hirschberger will be the judge for the upcoming competition.

Rally: Sheryl Kjelland reported that UVMTA Rally will be April 4, and FMMTA Rally will be April 18.

Technology: Kathleen Johnson reported that she has updated the current membership on the website. She will post the 2020 Conference schedule and registration as they become available.

New Business

A discussion was held regarding any grants that would be available to us.

A discussion was held regarding the conference rotation. Currently there will be 2 conferences held in the eastern half of the state, with the next 2 potentially being in the western half. It was decided to go back to the original schedule of holding a conference in the east, and then the west. Priscilla Keogh moved, Lisa Schuler 2nd that the following schedule be used for the conferences: 2020 Fargo, 2021 Minot, 2022 Grand Forks, 2023 Dickinson. Motion carried.

Minot will be the site for our 2021 conference. Since their collegiate chapter is in early formation stages & Minot is without a current local association, statewide participation is important to help make this new conference venue work. More information and signups will be available at the June board meeting.

Local Association reports were given.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Gegelmann

2020 NDMTA Silent Auction

Make plans to donate and/or bid at the annual NDMTA Silent Auction during the State Conference in June. The money raised from this auction will be used to help with travel grants for students who win MTNA Competitions.

Hopefully, each local group will bring an auction item and many individuals will also donate items! Remember to list the value of each donated item so a starting bid can be determined. You can bring your auction items to the registration table when you arrive at the conference. Viewing and bidding will occur throughout the conference with the winners being announced at the end of the conference on Friday, June 5.

Thank you in advance for supporting this fun tradition with your auction item(s) and/or bid(s)!



Our 2021 Foundation Fellow Nominee... Marjorie Johnson

By Vangie Johnson Parker, Foundation Chair



Marjorie began her career in 1955 as a teacher of music in West Liberty and Sioux City, IA. After moving into the North Dakota/Minnesota area, she began teaching at the Concordia Conservatory of Music in Moorhead, MN and also taught as a private music instructor. She continued her studies at Briar Cliff College, North Dakota State University, and Princeton, NJ. Marge holds a teaching certificate for Kindermusik and has attended many workshops and seminars to enhance her teaching skills.

She holds a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Iowa and is a Nationally Certified Teacher of Music in MTNA. She is a past president of both FMMTA and the Fargo Music Club. She has also served on many committees and judged festivals, contests and guild auditions. Her students have successfully participated in festivals, guild performances, recitals, and church contests.

Marge has been a widow since 2012 and has 2 sons, 6 grandchildren and 2 great-grandsons.

She humbly accepts the honor of Foundation Fellow Nominee for 2021 and we are so proud to have her as our representative for NDMTA!

You can donate on the MTNA website

<https://www.mtnafoundation.org/contribute/contribute-now/>

or send a check to:
MTNA Foundation Fund
1 W. 4th St., Ste. 1550
Cincinnati, OH 45202

Popplers Music Competition

By Karen Okerlund

I hope all of you are preparing your students to compete in the Popplers Competition on June 3, 2020. The competition will be held at the State Convention in Beckwith at Reineke Hall on the campus of NDSU.

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.

The Popplers application form can be found in this newsletter.

You must have your forms back to
Karen Okerlund no later than Wednesday, May 13.
1617 S. 10th St S.
Fargo, ND 58103



Popplers Music Competitions Application



June 3, 2020

NDSU, Reineke Fine Arts Center

Fargo, ND

Complete this form in pen.

Entrant Information

Name _____ Male _____ Female _____

Mailing Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____ Age as of June 1, 2020 _____

Name(s) of Parent(s) or Guardian(s) _____

Hometown Newspaper & Email _____

Student Fees (circle one)	Elementary	\$30.00 (ages 8-11)
	Junior High	\$35.00 (ages 12-14)
	High School	\$45.00 (ages 15-18)
	Collegiate	\$50.00 (ages 19-26)

Teacher Information

Name _____ Date dues were paid _____ Membership # _____

Mailing Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____ Email _____

Name of accompanist (if applicable) _____

Do you have students entered in other categories? Yes No (circle). If yes, write names & levels on an attached sheet.

Area entering (piano, woodwinds, brass, strings, etc.) _____

Repertoire for Competition Performance

This repertoire program must include title and number of each movement, tempo markings, the composer's full name, total performance time and period of music. Please type the complete program on a separate sheet of paper and attach to this application form.

Example:	<u>Composition</u>	<u>Composer</u>	<u>Duration</u>	<u>Period</u>
	Sonata No 1 in g minor, BMV 1001	JS Bach	I. Adagio (4:17)	Baroque
			<u>IV Presto (2:48)</u>	
			Total 7:05	

Competition Agreement: It is the responsibility of the teacher and the entrant to abide by the rules listed in the NDMTA directory that are applicable to the Popplers Music Competitions. This form will be returned if there are any omissions or inaccuracies. The undersigned verify that the information submitted on this application form is complete and accurate and that the teacher paid state and national dues. All piano programs must be memorized.

Signature of Entrant _____ Signature of Teacher _____

Completed forms and check (payable to NDMTA) must be postmarked by May 13, 2020. Mail to:

Karen Okerlund
1617 10th St. S.
Fargo, ND 58103

North Dakota Music Teachers Association Annual Conference

Wednesday-Friday, June 3-5, 2020

North Dakota State University

Reineke Arts Building

12th Ave. N & Bolley Dr.

Fargo, North Dakota

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 or Student or One Day Only (member) \$ 50 _____

One Day - non member \$60 _____

Thursday _____ Friday _____

Parking Passes - \$2/day or \$6 for 3 days \$ _____

Meals: Wednesday: Board Meeting/ Supper –(TBD) order from menu

Luncheon and Banquet must be prepaid, includes gratuities and taxes.

Thursday: IMTF Luncheon & Program – Reineke Atrium \$15 _____

Build Your Own Sandwich Bar, Chips, Coffee, Water

Thursday: Banquet – Reineke Atrium

Bourbon Glazed Chicken, Rosemary Roasted Red Potatoes,

Vegetable du jour, House Salad with Homemade Dill Ranch,

Petite Pains and Garlic Medallions, coffee and ice water \$26 _____

Please indicate if you have food allergies and another menu will be available

Late Registration Fee: (Postmarked after May 11) \$15 _____

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Mail completed form and send check, payable to NDMTA to:

Corinne Nustad, 2522 Country Club Pkwy, Moorhead, MN 56560

Conference Hotel: Expressway Suites, 4303 17th Ave. S., Fargo, ND 58103

20 rooms will be reserved until May 20th at \$79.95 plus tax for single, king, double, queen.

Please ask for the NDMTA block. Phone 701-239-4303, or expresswayinfo@gmail.com

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 Corinne Nustad at 701-388-9790 or Corinne.nustad@gmail.com AND send a written request to Michelle Kallod, 668 17th Ave. East, West Fargo, ND 58078.

NDMTA CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

June 3-5, 2020
Reineke Arts Building
North Dakota State University
12th Ave. N. & Bolley Dr.
Fargo, ND

Wednesday, June 3, 2020

- 12:00 PM Popplers Music Competition Rehearsals
Reineke Arts Building
- 2:00 PM Popplers Music Competition
- 4:00 PM Board Meeting
Marlins Restaurant – 3520 12th Ave. N., Fargo (right off I94)
Order from Menu
- 6:00PM Conference Registration
Reineke Arts Building
NDSU
- 7:00 PM Official Opening Concert
Popplers Music Competition Winners and
Commissioned Composer, Dr. Nicholas Meyer, “A Brief Story” for trumpet and marimba
NDSU Beckwith Recital Hall
Reception to follow – compliments of J.W. Pepper

Thursday, June 4, 2020

- 8:30 am-9:00 am Registration, Reineke Atrium
- 9:00 am-10:15 am Session I – Marvin Blickenstaff
“Doing What Comes Naturally”
Beckwith Hall
- 10:15 am-10:45am Break – Silent Auction, Vendors Displays
NDSU Choir Room
Refreshments, Atrium
- 10:45 am-12:00 pm Session II – Marvin Blickenstaff
“Technical Routines for Busy Teachers”
Beckwith Hall
- 12:30 pm-1:30 pm IMTF Luncheon
“TBD”
NDSU Atrium
- 2:00 pm-3:00 pm Business Meeting
Beckwith Hall
- 3:00 pm-3:15 –pm Break with Refreshments
- 3:15 pm – 4:15 pm Session III – Marvin Blickenstaff
“Pedagogy 101”
Beckwith Hall

(2020 Conference Schedule continued from page 7)

- 5:30 pm Banquet
 Reineke Atrium
- 7:30 pm Concert: Excelsior
 Beckwith Hall
 Reception to follow compliments Schmitt Music

Friday, June 3, 2020

- 8:30 am Registration
 Reineke Atrium
- 9:00 am-10:15 am Session IV – Marvin Blickenstaff
 “What Do You Do When the Magic Stops?”
 Beckwith Hall
- 10:15 am-10:45 am Break with refreshments – Silent Auction closes at 10:45 am
- 10:45 am – 12:00 pm Session V – Christian Heaford, RPT
 “Fine Tuning the ‘Action’ of a Piano Technician
 Beckwith Hall

Conference Presenter - Marvin Blickenstaff

Marvin Blickenstaff is known throughout North America for his performing, lecturing, and teaching. Blickenstaff holds degrees from the Oberlin Conservatory of Music and Indiana University where he received both academic and performance honors. He frequently lectures at state and national conventions of music teachers and has been featured on five webinars sponsored by the France Clark Center for Keyboard Pedagogy. In 2007 he was named a Fellow of the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto and in 2009 he received the Achievement Award, the highest honor given by the Music Teachers National Association. He has been named Teacher of the Year by both the Indiana and Pennsylvania Music Teachers Associations and was honored in 2013 by the National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy. Steinway & Sons has honored him with induction into their *Teacher Hall of Fame*. Residing in the greater Philadelphia area, Blickenstaff teaches in his home studio and at The New School for Music Study in Princeton, NJ.



Conference Recitalists - Excelsior! Trio

Although Excelsior! Trio was officially formed in 2009, Deb, Russ, and Jay, members of the music faculty at Concordia College in Moorhead, MN have been performing together on and off since 2001. Early on they discovered a deep sympathy for each other's musical styles, technique, and artistic personalities, and decided to "take it to the next level" by forming a professional trio, especially encouraged by a number of fellow professionals from around the country.



From Los Angeles and Cleveland, Minneapolis and Athens, GA, to St. Andrews Scotland and Fienza, Italy audiences have enthusiastically responded to the high-energy music making of Excelsior! Trio. Performing an eclectic mix of classical, jazz, folk, and contemporary chamber music, the unique combination of flute, saxophone, and piano results in an unusual variety of sound, timbre, and style, making Excelsior! Trio a satisfying and entertaining ensemble for all occasions.

Conference Presenter - Christian Heaford



Christian Heaford is a full time Registered Piano Technician (RPT) with over 30 years in the field.

He began his training while attending Berklee College of Music in Boston, MA and currently services pianos in the Fargo-Moorhead area. He is a graduate of the Steinway comprehensive piano service course, as well as Yamaha's prestigious "Little Red School House" for advanced piano service techniques.

As the co-owner of Piano Forte with his business partner, Nate Mattison, RPT Christian enjoys his long term relationships with clients such as Concordia College, NDSU, Minnesota State University, FM Symphony Orchestra, FM Opera Company, FM Choral Artists, Master Chorale, as well as dozens of other music organizations, stages and churches.

Christian enjoys teaching aural piano tuning and is proud that some of his former students have gone on to work for him or pursue careers themselves as piano technicians in other markets. You can often catch him playing piano at Hope Lutheran Church South, North and West campuses.

Commissioned Composer - Nicholas Meyers

Nicholaus Meyers, a native of Georgia, is currently Director of Bands and Percussion at East Central University in Ada, Oklahoma. Dr. Meyers directs the ECU marching band, wind ensemble, concert band, percussion ensemble, teaches applied percussion, conducting, and other courses in the music education sequence. Additionally, he organizes a large annual high school marching band competition "Tigerpalooza" at East Central University that brings marching bands from across the state of Oklahoma to compete. Before coming to ECU, he was the Assistant Director of Athletic Bands at North Dakota State University in Fargo, North Dakota and Director of Bands, Percussion, and Composition at Valley City State University in Valley City, North Dakota. Additionally, he serves as a faculty member at IMC (International Music Camp) and as a member of the Fargo-Moorhead Symphony.



Before coming to Oklahoma, Dr. Meyers also taught at Augusta State University, Troy University, and Augusta Technical College and was the Assistant Director of Bands at Lakeside High School in Evans, Georgia. Other ensembles he has performed with consist of the Augusta Symphony, Augusta Opera, Augusta Players, Augusta Chorale Society, Greater Grand Forks Symphony, Oak Ridge Symphony, and Fort Gordon Dinner Theater. Dr. Meyers keeps an active schedule giving masterclasses, discussions, adjudicating, serving as a honor band clinician and performing.

He is also a commissioned composer whose works have been performed throughout the United States and Europe. His first CD "Stepping Away" was released on September 19, 2016 which features his solo piano music. Meyers is currently working on his next CD which will contain several of his works for percussion.

He is currently Chair of the Percussive Arts Society (PAS) Composition Committee, past President of the PAS North Dakota Chapter and Chair of the Oklahoma Intercollegiate Band. Further memberships include the American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers (ASCAP), Percussive Arts Society (PAS), and the College Band Directors National Association (CBDNA).

Meyers received his degrees from Augusta State University (BM), the University of Tennessee (MM) and North Dakota State University (DMA). Additionally, he studied at the University of Georgia and in Oslo, Norway with Principal Percussionist Christian Berg of the Oslo, Philharmonic. He is sponsored by Aquarian Drumheads, Black Swamp Percussion, Gon Bops, Innovative Percussion, Sabian Cymbals, and the Yamaha Corporation. Many of his works are published by C. Alan Publications, HaMar Music, and Per-Mus Publications.

News from your NDMTA Foundation

By Vangie Johnson Parker, NDMTA Foundation Chair

Final contribution giving for our Foundation Fellow Nominee Gloria Bethke totaled \$1,555.00! Although Gloria will be unable to attend the MTNA conference, Vice President Dr. Dianna Anderson will be accepting the certificate and pin on her behalf at the Gala in March of 2020.

Individual Contributions received in 2019 for Gloria are listed below:

Dianna Anderson	Darla Sheldon	Linda Wallevand
Maxine Beseler	Cheryl Dockter	Eileen Geske
Vangie Johnson Parker	Anne Morris	Wanda Wavra
Marjorie Johnson	Sue Nagel	Sheryl Kjelland
Beth Klingenstein	Jean Guenther	Laura O'Rourke
Mary Motta	Paige Keiser-Rezac	Cynthia Olson
Karen Okerlund	Sharon Gegelmann	Mary Schneider
Michael Olson	Kathryn Greene	Lisa Schuler
Cathie Scheid	Kathleen Johnson	Connie Sjostrom
Gary Bethke	Cathy Tweten	Sister Bernadette Trecker

Thanks in part to your generosity, more than \$155,500 was raised on a national level in 2019 to honor our state nominees. As of February 10 2020, \$120.00 has been raised thus far for our new 2021 nominee Marjorie Johnson! (Please see her biography on the following Foundation Page of the newsletter). Proceeds from all contributions will help MTNA facilitate programs which encourage further music study, excellence in performance and music composition.

A heartfelt thanks to each of you for your kindhearted giving!

Upcoming Events

2020 MTNA Conference	March 21-25	Chicago, IL
2020 NDMTA Conference	June 3-5	Fargo, ND

Michelle Kallod, Editor
668 17th Ave E
West Fargo, ND 58078



www.ndmta.org