



Letter from the President, Tamara Bertram

Dear North Dakota Music Teachers,

As we dive into the bustling spring season, I extend my warmest greetings to each and every one of you. It's during this time that our dedication to nurturing the musical talents of our students truly shines, as we prepare them for recitals, competitions, and performances that showcase their hard work and passion for music.

As we navigate through this exciting time, I want to take a moment to encourage you to consider stepping into leadership roles within our wonderful organization, the North Dakota Music Teachers Association (NDMTA). The opportunity to serve in leadership positions not only allows you to contribute to the growth and development of our profession but also provides you with valuable experiences for personal and professional growth.

Currently, there are several open positions within NDMTA that may interest you:

Historian: This role involves documenting and archiving important milestones, events, and achievements of NDMTA, preserving our rich history for future generations.

Advertising Chair: The role of advertising chair involves selling ads for our annual directory through partnerships with the broader community.

Popplers Competition Chair: Do you have a keen interest in organizing competitions and showcasing the talent of young musicians? Serving as the Popplers Competition Chair offers you the opportunity to oversee the planning and execution of this annual event.

Detailed descriptions of these positions can be found on the NDMTA website. To apply or for any more information please contact me directly tamara.bertram@und.edu . I urge you to consider taking on these leadership roles and contributing your skills and expertise to the continued success of our organization.

In addition to these leadership opportunities, I want to remind you of the upcoming NDMTA State Conference, scheduled to take place in Grand Forks from August 7 to 8. This event promises to be a gathering of like-minded individuals dedicated to advancing our profession through education, collaboration, and inspiration. I encourage each of you to mark your calendars and make plans to attend this enriching experience.

Sincerely,

Tamara Bertram



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Popplers Music Competitions
Popplers Music, Grand Forks, ND
Wednesday, August 7, 2024
Entries close Monday, July 15, 2024

NDMTA Conference Schedule
August 7-8, 2024
Popplers Music, Grand Forks

Wednesday, August 7, 2024

12:00 pm	Popplers Music Competitions Rehearsals Beck Auditorium, Klinefelter Hall
2:00 pm	Popplers Music Competition
4:00 pm	Executive Board Meeting
6:30-7:00 pm	Conference Registration
7:00 pm	Official Opening Concert Popplers Music Competition Winners, Commissioned Composer Premier Concert Reception to Follow

Thursday, August 8, 2024

8:30-9:00 am	Registration & Coffee
9:00- 11:30 am	Session I – Lisa Bastein
11:30 am -12:15 pm	Popplers Lunch (catered by Popplers)
12:15-12:30 pm	Membership Chair, Corinne Nustad
12:30-12:45	Break
12:45-2:00 pm	Session II—Lisa Bastein The Beginning Pianist's Technic Journey
2:00-2:15 pm	Break
2:15-3:00	Annual Business Meeting
3:00-3:15 pm	Break
3:15-4:30 pm	IMTF Session
4:30 pm	Closing of Conference



NDMTA Annual Conference

Registration Form

August 7-8, 2024

Popplers Music, Grand Forks, ND

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone: Home _____ Cell _____

E-mail _____

NDMTA Member: Yes No Local Association _____

Registration Fees:

Full Conference – member \$65 _____

Full Conference – non-member \$65 _____

Full Conference - First Time Attendee \$55 _____

Full Conference - Student \$35 _____

Online Processing Fee (DO NOT INCLUDE IF PAYING BY CHECK) \$3.64 _____

June 8th, IMTF Luncheon & Program Qty ____ x \$15/person _____

Let us know if you have any dietary needs _____

Late Registration Fee: (Postmarked after June 24) \$15 _____

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Payment Options:

1. Complete this registration form online and use PayPal to pay online at www.ndmta.org ***OR***
2. Mail completed form and send check, payable to NDMTA before June 24th to:

Michelle Kallod

668 17th Ave E

West Fargo, ND 58078

Phone: 701-200-6274

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 Michelle Kallod (701) 200-6274 and send a written request to Michelle Kallod, 668 17th Ave. East, West Fargo, ND 58078.

Hotel information will be available in the next issue of the NDMTA Newsletter.



Popplers Music Competitions Application
Popplers Music
Grand Forks, ND
Wednesday, August 7, 2024



Complete this form in pen or online <https://www.ndmta.org/competitions.php>

Entrant Information

Name _____
Mailing Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ Email _____ Age as of June 1, 2024 _____
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 _____ Member of NDMTA? Yes/No _____
Mailing Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____ Email _____
Name of accompanist (if applicable) _____
Instrument (piano, woodwinds, brass, strings, vocal) _____

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 and vocal programs must be memorized.

Signature of Entrant _____
Signature of Teacher _____

Completed forms and check (payable to NDMTA) must be postmarked by July 15, 2024. Mail to:
Tamara Bertram
1103 Darwin Drive
Grand Forks, ND 58203

Our NDMTA Foundation Fellow Nominee for 2025... Anne L. Morris!

By Dianna Anderson, Foundation Chair

Anne Morris is a State and Nationally certified piano instructor. She began teaching piano in 1977 and has been a member of MTNA since 1980. She is a contributor to the local and state levels and has held many board positions for FMMTA and NDMTA. Since 1997, Mrs. Morris has attended most of the yearly state and national conferences to keep up-to-date in her field.

Anne has a BA and BS in music from Minnesota State University, Moorhead, and has attended graduate classes at the University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, Minnesota. She has also trained in Musikgarten, Kodaly, Orff, Music and Young Children, Music Rhapsody, John Feierabend, Frances Clark Center, and RCM (Certified Elementary). In addition to piano, Mrs. Morris taught music at many preschools, daycare centers, and general music K-6 at a Montessori school in Moorhead, Minnesota. Anne is also involved with the Piano Guild (she was Chairperson for several years), Federation of Music Clubs (she has been a judge in ND and SD), Rally, and RCM. She is a church organist/pianist and also teaches guitar and voice. For some time, Anne also taught organ and accordion and formed a young children's accordion band that performed at many of the retirement homes in Fargo.



A heartfelt thanks to each of you fellow persons for your kindhearted giving to Dr. Robert Groves, our 2024 Fellow!



Maxine Beseler
Gloria Bethke
Kathy Bresse
Cheryl Dockter
Donna Fitzgerald
Eileen Geske
Jean Guenther
Tamara Jasperse
Marjorie Johnson
Karen Kalinowski
Priscilla Keogh
Beth Klingenstein

Carma Kulish
Lynn Lamb
Peter Mack
Amy Mercer
Anne Morris
Susan Nagel
Corinne Nustad
Karen Okerlund
Alpha Roeszler
Cathie Scheid
Mary Schneider
Darla Sheldon

Ellen Sturdevant
Sister Bernadette
Trecker
Jennifer Turnwall
Linda Wallevand
Wanda Wavra
Sandy Weisenberger
Lynnae Wiitamaki
Monica Wolf
Anonymous Donors

NDMTA Executive Board Meeting, January 20, 2024

President Tamara Bertram called the meeting to order. Roll Call: Vangie Johnson Parker, Tamara Bertram, Dianna Anderson, Sue Nagel, Lisa Schuler, Michelle Kallod, Anne Morris, Jennifer Flores, Michelle Schumacher, Priscilla Keogh.

The agenda was adopted.

Officers' Reports:

Secretary:

The minutes from the October 21, 2023, meeting were approved.

Treasurer: Michelle Kallod submitted her financial report. Checking \$23,610.72. Savings \$15,231.41. CD \$10, 712.18

President: Tamara Bertram attended a recent West Central Division meeting to brainstorm about membership. She contacted John C. about the competition chair position, but he was not interested. She has attended conference prep meetings.

Vice President: Lisa Schuler updated the Commission Composer contract to include the title and medium for the 2024 premier. It will be for baritone voice and piano and titled "i am a little church". (in all lower-case letters) by Isaac Lovdahl. She announced that Lisa Bost-Sandberg, the 2023 Commission Composer, was not selected for the MTNA Distinguished Composer of the Year Award. She will notify Lisa of the results. Lisa sent follow-up letters to Popplers Music Store, GGMTA, and Clinician Lisa Bastien with details for the 2024 Conference. She continued an email thread with Wendy Stevens, possible clinician for 2025, but Wendy cannot make it work. She suggested looking at other clinicians for 2025 and maybe consider Wendy in 2027.

Advertising: Anne Morris collected past due amounts from Greater Grand Forks, NDSU, and FJH for \$275. She will be collecting \$50 from Northern State. Anne will be contacting future advertisers in the spring and will be retiring from this position in June. She is very willing to help the next Advertising Chair.

Competitions: Sue Nagel reported that WCD

online competitions were recently held, and ND has 2 winners who will compete in Atlanta! Eric Bergeman, YA flute – student of Bonita Boyd at Eastman and Enoch Orukotan, SR saxophone – student of Russ Peterson. Oswald Johnson at VCSU is interested in the Competitions Chair position. President Tamara Bertram will talk with Oswald about the details.

Directory: Editor, Michelle Schumacher, apologized on behalf of the company that printed the directory this year. The font was far too small. Instead of reprinting and mailing a new directory, it was decided the company will charge less due to the error. Michelle assured the board that it wouldn't happen again. She thanked Anne Morris for her outstanding work in raising funds to print the directory.

Foundation Fellow: Dr. Dianna Anderson received confirmation that NDMTA raised the required amount to name Dr. Robert Groves as Foundation Fellow for 2024. The total raised at last count was \$1614.50.

She received a list of donors from MTNA and will forward it to Michelle Kallod for the newsletter. Dianna submitted a google form/survey to board members to vote on the two nominees for Foundation Fellow 2025. The 2025 Fellow will be Anne Morris of FMMTA. She also spoke with Robert Groves about attending the national conference in Atlanta. He is planning to be there.

Membership: Corinne Nustad has been monitoring incoming new memberships and paid memberships. She continues to inform the newsletter, directory, and technology chairs of any necessary updates to membership information. Corinne sent email welcome letters to new members and cc'd the state president and their local presidents. Current membership is 90. Last year at this time it was 91.

Newsletter: Michelle Kallod announced the deadline is February 5th for submissions to the newsletter. It will be a condensed edition with a full newsletter coming in April that will have state conference information.

Popplers Competition: Tamara Bertram announced that applications will close

Wednesday May 15th. This was not printed in the directory so spread the word to get teachers and students involved. The competition will be held at Popplers Music Store on Wednesday, August 7th. Registration fees will be: 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).

Rally: Sheryl Kjelland has sent Rally materials to FMMTA for their April Rally and will prepare materials for the UVMTA Rally. Both rallies will be held on April 13, 2024.

Technology: Kathleen Johnson reported that the NDMTA website has been launched and she has successfully updated a few things. Videos of how to make updates to all portions of the website were made by Bluestem Media and have been very helpful. The website member directory was updated at launch time, but there have been a few new members since, so she will do another update. She will add news events as they occur. With the upcoming NDMTA Conference, Kathleen will need the conference registration information, Popplers Competitions registration form, information about presenters, programs, recitals etc. to upload.

Discussions:

MTNA National Conference: 8 NDMTA members and a few NDMTA Collegiate members will be attending the national conference in Atlanta. These members will be encouraged to purchase a Gala ticket to support Dr. Robert Groves, the 2024 Foundation Fellow. Dianna Anderson made a motion to purchase a State Table at the Gala for \$350. Vangie Johnson Parker seconded;

Upcoming Events

2024 Popplers Music Competition	July 24, deadline Aug. 7, competition	Popplers Music, Grand Forks
2024 NDMTA Conference	August 7-8	Popplers Music Grand Forks
2024 MTNA Competitions	October	VCSU, Valley City
2025 MTNA National Conference	March 2025	Minneapolis, MN

motion passed.

2024 State Conference: Lisa Schuler made a motion to accept the registration form as presented, seconded by Anne Morris. Motion passed. Michelle Kallod will take care of registrations. Tamara will reserve a block of hotel rooms. Other details will be taken care of by Tamara Bertram and Lisa Schuler.

2025 State Conference: The 2025 State Conference will be held in Minot in early June. This was decided after a poll of the membership was taken, and it works better for the host city.

GGFMTA & BMMTA: Both local associations are struggling with membership and being active. FMMTA reached out to invite them to their meetings. The presidents of these locals, Tamara Bertram and Jennifer

Flores, will meet to brainstorm on what can be done to attract active members. Pricilla Keogh suggested sharing the "Hidden Gems" handout presented by Beth Klingenstein at the conference last summer. Lisa Schuler will send it to all board members and will encourage the membership chair to use it to attract new members.

NDMTA Endowment: Tamara and Michell Kallod will meet this summer to finalize the details for starting an endowment to be used for scholarships.

Adjournment: Priscilla Keogh made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Jennifer Flores, motion passed.

Submitted by Lisa Schuler, filling in for Sheryl Kjelland.

NDMTA Commissioned Composer

For the past many years, NDMTA has commissioned a composer to write a new work for the State Conference. This composition is sent to National to determine the *MTNA Distinguished Composer of the Year*. Twenty eight composers from around the US wrote commissioned works for their states last year. NDMTA would like to thank Lisa Bost-Sandberg for her flute & piano submission and a wonderful premier concert at the NDMTA Conference in Dickinson this past June.

A committee of MTNA adjudicators selected Robert McClure from the Ohio Music Teachers Association as the 2023 *MTNA Distinguished Composer of the Year* with his composition, *Celestial Miniatures*.

The works of all twenty eight commissioned composers are archived in the MTNA Commissioned Works Library at the University of Cincinnati.

In a letter to Lisa Bost-Sandberg, Gary L. Ingle, Executive Director & Chief Executive Officer of MTNA wrote, "The MTNA Commissioned Composer Program is a vital part of our mission to our state affiliates and to composition. Through their commissions of composers like you, MTNA maintains its significant role in ensuring the continuation of the creation and performance of new music of today."

NDMTA Conference Presenter, Lisa Bastien

On any given day, twenty floors above the bustling streets of New York City, Lisa Bastien's piano studio is abuzz with the joyous sounds of students making and learning about music. For over a quarter century, her home has served as a place where students of diverse ages, abilities, and interests have come to experience joy, discovery, growth, and a passion for music.

Lisa began piano lessons at the age of four in New Orleans, Louisiana, with her mother, Jane Smisor Bastien. While Jane instilled in Lisa a passion for teaching and her keen sense of pedagogy, it was her father, James Bastien that introduced Lisa to the repertoire of the masters and fueled her love of great piano literature. They also shared a love of tennis, which they played together whenever time allowed. Lisa moved to San Diego, California in 1975, and it was there that Lisa graduated from high school.



Lisa went on to receive a Bachelor of Music degree in Piano Performance from Drake University where she studied with George Katz and her Master's degree in piano pedagogy from Arizona State University where she studied with Dr. Robert Roux. After completing her master's, Lisa and her husband Basil Hanss moved to New Orleans where she taught in the Preparatory Piano Department at Loyola University. They eventually settled in New York City and Lisa established her studio, teaching both private and group lessons in piano and theory.

It was also in New York that Lisa began a prolific career as a writer and composer. Lisa has co-authored over 100 piano books with her mother Jane and her sister Lori. Collectively, the Bastien family has authored over 500 hundred books that are translated into 14 languages and have taught millions of students how to play the piano. Lisa has clocked countless days, weeks, and months in planes, trains, and automobiles traveling around the globe to share the Bastien publications with other teachers at workshops and conventions worldwide.

Through it all, however, it was—and continues to be—Lisa's passion for excellence as a teacher, and her dedication to her students, that define her. Lisa cares deeply about the musical progress and personal growth of each individual student and finds great joy in the lifelong connections she has with her students and their families.



www.ndmta.org

Michelle Kallod, Editor
West Fargo, ND
northdakotamta@gmail.com