

# Nebraska Music Teacher

Opus 49, No.3

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## From the President

Starting a new position is always a challenge, and the Presidency of NMTA is no different. I'm comforted by the fact that the organization has enjoyed outstanding leadership in previous terms. Wanda Mandigo has left me with a strong, well-organized team that seems to work flawlessly on its own. I want to take this opportunity to thank Wanda for her outstanding service to NMTA and to her continued commitment to excellence in music teaching.

This is an exciting time in NMTA. Our membership continues to grow and thrive, and the quality of our students continues to improve. During my term, I'd like to see NMTA reach the following goals.

- Increase participation in state conferences
- Certify a larger percentage of the membership
- Diversify the instruments represented in our competitions

I'll ask for your help with achieving these goals, and I think we can make a real difference in

the level of musicianship in Nebraska. We don't teach music to turn every student into a music major or major concert artist. We teach so our students will be more human, so that they'll recognize beauty, and so that they'll be more sensitive to the thoughts and feelings that composers with many voices have put into sound throughout the ages. NMTA is populated with talented, dedicated teachers and musicians who share this positive outlook for our artistic future. I'll do my best to live up to the trust you've bestowed in me as your elected president.

Ken Bales, President  
Department of Music  
University of Nebraska at Omaha  
Omaha, NE 68182-0245  
402-554-3359  
kbales@mail.unomaha.edu

## Tri-State Conference an Unqualified Success

The annual conference of NMTA was held Halloween weekend in Overland Park, Kansas in cooperation with Kansas Music Teachers Association (KCMTA) and Missouri Music Teachers Association (MMTA). Nebraska was represented by 55 registrants, including several

student members. Highlights of the weekend are too numerous to mention, but a few of the memorable events are outlined below.

The focus of the conference was improvisation, and outstanding sessions based on this topic included the following:

- Improvisation Shouldn't Bring on the Prozac, by Martha Hilley
- Elementary Jazz Improvisation, by Ann Collins
- It's a Jazz Life, by Bobby Watson
- Creativity, Improvisation and Composition in the Private Studio, by Jonathan Sokasits
- Piano and Tar Improvisation in the Context of Persian Music, by Ken Hoppman and Mahour Mellat

<i>In this issue:</i>	<i>Page</i>
From the President	1
Conference Review	1-2
Awards Nominations	2
2003 Award Winners	3-5
Treasurer's Report	6
Travel Grant Application	7
Membership News	8-9
Foundation News	10
District Festival Info	11

The conference showcased sevshowcased superb young pianists from Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska. Hough, internationally acclaimed British pianist, eral other features that were excellent enhancements. Several vendors set up in an exhibition room demonstrated the latest trends in music and methods available for teaching in studios. They also featured materials authored by conference presenters.

There was a great deal of excellent performance at the conference. A masterclass with Stephen Hough, conference artist displayed his blazing technique in the culminating recital of the weekend. Yardley Hall, the beautiful performance venue of Carlsen center, was the location for the recital, which included the music of Liszt, Hummel, and Chopin. Encores included original compositions and arrangements of popular tunes by Hough.

The success of the conference was due in large part to the efforts of the local conference chair, Millie Mehnert, Immediate Past President for the state of Missouri. Her tireless effort was recognized at the conference banquet with Gary Ingle, Executive Director of MTNA, in attendance. All who attended agreed that the conference was enlightening and just plain fun.

## **AWARD NOMINATIONS**

Nominations for the 2004 NMTA Teacher of the Year and the NMTA Service Award are now being sought. To be considered for this year, please send your nominations no later than **January 31, 2004**. Nomination(s) need only contain a few sentences describing the qualifications of your nominee(s). Nominees do not submit portfolios.

Please send nominations to:

Wanda Mandigo

13412 Alvo Road

Waverly, NE 68462

or

e-mail: [wmandigo@alltel.net](mailto:wmandigo@alltel.net)

### **NMTA Service Award Requirements:**

1) Member in good standing of NMTA/MTNA for the past 5 consecutive years; 2) Outstanding service to NMTA at the local and/or state level; 3) Recipient must not have received the award in any of the previous 10 years; 4) Nominee must have held at least 1 local or state-wide appointed or elected office; and, 5) No one on the NMTA Executive Committee (elected officers) may receive this award.

### **NMTA Teacher of the Year Award Requirements:**

1) Member in good standing of NMTA/MTNA for the past 5 consecutive years; 2) Demonstrated excellence in teaching as evidenced through festivals, competitions, student recitals, and other musical activities; 3) The award recipient should not have received this award in any of the previous 10 years; 4) No one on the NMTA Executive Committee (elected officers) may receive this award.

The NMTA Executive Committee will select the awards. Recipients must attend the State Conference in the year in which the award is given. The honors include plaques and cash awards.

Recipients will be recognized in the conference program and in the *NMT*.



**Nebraska Music Teachers  
Association  
Teacher of the Year  
Aleta Collier**

Aleta Collier has been a performer and teacher of violin and viola in Nebraska since 1950. She teaches about thirty students a week, and has former students teaching and performing in several states. Her early music training began at the Bruce School in Kansas City, and with William J. Ready, Assistant Concertmaster of the Kansas City Philharmonic. Moving to Lincoln in 1939, she later studied with Carl F. Steckelberg, Emanuel Wishnow at UNL, and Szymonj Golberg at the Aspen School of Music. She received a B. M. E. in 1950, with highest distinction from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln.

She taught strings in Scottbluff for five years, returning to Lincoln in 1955 to marry Morris Collier. With the late Carol Work and Ruth Johnson, both NMTA members, she and Morris founded the Lincoln String Quartet, now in its 48<sup>th</sup> year. Her teaching has been influenced by clinicians such as Paul Rolland, Samuel Applebaum, Josef Gingold, Janos Starker, Paul Doktor, Miles Hoffman, Jerry Fischbach, Edward Melkus, Geza Szilvay, and Phyllis Young.

This year will be Aleta's 51<sup>st</sup> season in the 1<sup>st</sup> violin section of the Lincoln Symphony. She played 1<sup>st</sup> violin in the Omaha Symphony for 24 years, The Nebraska Chamber Orchestra, violin and viola, for 17 years, and the Nebraska Camerata Orchestra Berlin Tour in 1992. She and Morris play in the Hastings Symphony, the Nebraska Symphony Chamber Orchestra, and the Collegium Concoridis's "J. S. Bach and Friends" touring ensemble.

Aleta is a member of Sigma Alpha Iota, Pi Kappa Lambda, and Pi Lambda Theta. She and her husband Morris received a Mayor's Arts Award in 1995 and a Dietze Music House Music Teacher(s) of the Month Award in 1996. Aleta and her husband have two children, Ray of Lincoln, and Susan Kowalski, of Albany, New York.

For her distinguished record of teaching and performance, Nebraska Music Teachers Association is pleased to honor Aleta Collier as the 2003 Teacher of the Year.



**Nebraska Music Teachers  
Association  
Teacher of the Year  
Morris Collier**

Morris Collier, NCTM, received his pre-college training in his home town of Clinton, Oklahoma. His teacher from 8 years old through high school was R. A. (“Prof”) Lloyd. Morris earned his B. M. Degree (1949) from Oklahoma University and an M. M. degree in music theory (1951) from the Eastman School of Music. His university violin teachers were Paul S. Carepenter, Margaret K. Farish, Millard Taylor and Emanuel Wishnow. He served in the U. S. Navy in WW II, 1943-46.

Morris’ teaching includes 51 years as a private string teacher, 17 years as string specialist with the Lincoln Public Schools, 15 years as Assistant Professor of violin and theory at Nebraska Wesleyan University, one year as Assistant Professor of Music at Kansas State University, 6 years as string teacher at St. John Lutheran School, and three semesters at Concordia College, Seward, Nebraska.

He received the Nebraska ASTA Private Teacher of the Year award in 1994, He and his wife, Aleta, received a Mayor’s Arts Award (Lincoln, NE) in 1995. Morris is listed in Who’s Who in America, and is a Nationally Certified Teacher of Music in violin with MTNA. He currently teaches about 50 private students weekly.

The 2003-2004 season marks Morris’ 52<sup>nd</sup> year with the Lincoln Symphony Orchestra. He is Emeritus Assistant concertmaster, having served as 2<sup>nd</sup> chair, first violin for 37 seasons, and a member of the Lincoln String quartet since 1955. Morris also played first violin in the Omaha Symphony for 23 years, the Nebraska Chamber Orchestra 17 years and has served as Concertmaster for many Nebraska college/community orchestras. He was concertmaster of the Nebraska Camerata Orchestra’s Berlin tour in 1992. Morris has appeared as a violin soloist with the Nebraska Wesleyan University Orchestra, Concordia University Orchestra, Joslyn Chamber Orchestra, the Tri-City Youth Symphony, and viola soloist with the University of Nebraska Symphony Orchestra.

Morris was String Chair for Lincoln Music Teachers Association and Nebraska Music Teachers Association for many years. He served as President of the Nebraska ASTA and Orchestra Chair for the Nebraska Music Educator’s Association.

For his extensive years of distinguished teaching and performing, Nebraska Music Teachers Association is pleased to honor Morris Collier as the 2003 Teacher of the Year.

**Nebraska Music Teachers  
Association  
Service Award  
Lorene Turnbull**



Lorene Turnbull joined Nebraska Music Teachers Association (NMTA), Omaha Music Teachers Association (OMTA) and Music Teachers National Association (MTNA) in 1981. Since that time she has been active in service to the local and state organizations. She has helped to plan or served as the co-chair for the OMTA Colossal Keyboard Concert that has grown over the years to be one of OMTA's biggest fund raisers. Lorene has served on many other committees and was treasurer of OMTA.

From 1989-1997 Lorene served Nebraska Music Teachers Association as the editor of the state newsletter and on the NMTA Executive Board. Lorene has been actively involved with the district music festivals always working in the theory area. On two occasions, she was responsible for the state convention program book.

Lorene has been teaching private piano almost continuously since 1951 and currently has a studio of 35 students. She has been active as a piano accompanist and has played for the education department of her church. Lorene has entered students in the Omaha Summer Music Olympics since its inception in 1981.

She was married for 49 years to Jim Turnbull, who passed away in September of 2002. Lorene has a daughter, Kathy, who lives in Sidney, Nebraska, who has two daughters. She also has a son, Scott, who lives in Omaha with three children.

Lorene comments, about her membership in MTNA, “. . . my association with my fellow teachers has been a highlight for me, and I plan to continue my membership as long as I am able.”

For her extensive years of service to Nebraska Music Teachers Association at the local and state level, NMTA is pleased to award the 2003 NMTA Service Award to Lorene Turnbull.

**Congratulations to NMTA's  
Newly Elected Officers**

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<b>President:</b>	Ken Bales
<b>Vice President:</b>	Marcia Wiebers
<b>Secretary:</b>	Jonathan Sokasits
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Tom Ediger
<b>President Elect:</b>	Roger Foltz

**NEBRASKA MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION  
2002-2003 TREASURER'S REPORT**

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**Realized Expenses 2002-2003**

Web Site	328.40
Board	3,606.97
District Festivals	8,269.96
Travel Awards	1,000.00
Newsletter	2,334.26
State Competitions	7,473.56
2002 Conference	5,792.50
Contributions	229.89
Commission	1,000.00

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**Total** **30,035.54**

**Realized Income 2002-2003**

Dues Rebate	5,167.50
Interest/Checking	92.92
MTNA Grants	1,000.00
District Festivals	13,140.00
2002 Conference	6,394.00
State Competitions	5,755.00
MTNA Award	1,000.00

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**Total** **31,549.42**

**NEBRASKA MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION  
2003-2004 TREASURER'S REPORT**

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**Projected Expenses 2003-2004**

Web Site	400.00
Board	4,000.00
District Festivals	8,000.00
Travel Awards	1,000.00
Newsletter	2,000.00
State Competitions	7,500.00
2003 Conference	5,000.00
Commission	1,000.00

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**Total** **28,900.00**

**Projected Income 2003-2004**

Dues Rebate	5,500.00
Interest/Checking	75.00
MTNA Grants	1,500.00
District Festivals	13,500.00
2003 Conference	2,500.00
State Competitions	6,000.00

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**Total** **29,075.00**

## NMTA Travel Grant Application for MTNA National Conference

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Please complete the following (use additional sheet if necessary):**

I. List activities in state and local MTA for the past five years, including offices held, committees, number of students entered in auditions, and any other pertinent information.

II. Write a paragraph explaining what you expect to gain from your attendance at the national convention.

III. Outline your teaching experience.

If selected, I agree to write an article for the summer issue of *Nebraska Music Teacher* about the national convention and what I gained from it.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Complete this form and send it **by January 31, 2004** to:

Ken Bales  
UNO Music Dept.  
Omaha, NE 68182-0245  
[kbales@mail.unomaha.edu](mailto:kbales@mail.unomaha.edu)

# NMTA Welcomes New Members

## New Members:

Heather Hull LMTA  
2248 Ryons St  
Lincoln, NE 68502  
(402) 742-6533

Diane Pearson LMTA  
2649 SW 16th St  
Lincoln, NE 68522  
(402) 435-8507

Jeanne Zukowski OMTA  
2102 Georgia Ave  
Bellevue, NE 68005-4523  
(402) 734-6483

## Student Members:

Tana Bachand  
1800 Knox St #35  
Lincoln, NE 68521  
(402) 480-0063

Rachel Buege LMTA  
2380 N 44th St #7  
Lincoln, NE 68504  
(402) 325-6168

Kristijan Civljak LMTA  
105 N. 8th St #305  
Lincoln, NE 68508  
(401) 742-0802

Andrew DeBoer  
1309 Pleasant St  
Hastings, NE 68901  
(402) 463-2652

Diana Frazier  
1537 C St  
Lincoln, NE 68502  
(402) 474-9857

Lia Jensen LMTA  
400 N 86th St  
Lincoln, NE 68505  
(402) 327-2383

Amanda Kenney  
1114 W 7th  
Hastings, NE 68901  
(402) 902-9235

Lisa McGlynn LMTA  
1611 N 14th St  
Lincoln, NE 68508  
(402) 770-6734

Dennis McNulty  
1601 S 64th St  
Omaha, NE 68106  
(402) 980-3322

Christy Morlock  
2312 Neihardt  
540 N 16th St  
Lincoln, NE 68508  
(402) 436-9485

Sarah Nowacki LMTA  
600 N 15th St  
Selleck Quadrangle #7227  
Lincoln, NE 68508  
(402) 436-0685

Bethany Walters  
2206 S 164 Ave  
Omaha, NE 68130

### **Find a Teacher:**

Any teacher may be listed in the "Find a Teacher" link on the NMTA Website. Send updated information to Ken Bales, webmaster, at kbales@mail.unomaha.edu.

### **Address Change Notice:**

If you have an address change, it should first be sent to MTNA National Headquarters to:

Elaine Donaldson  
MTNA Director of Membership  
(513) 421-1320 ext. 230  
edonaldson@mtna.org

Please also notify our NMTA Membership Chair:

Barbara Rader  
(402) 423-5836  
bkrader@alltel.net

# Membership News

## In Memoriam: Marilyn Hoover

by Wanda Mandigo

Longtime MTNA/NMTA/LMTA member and friend, Marilyn Hoover, passed away on Friday, August 15, 2003 after a long battle with cancer. Marilyn was a performer and teacher of piano who lovingly taught many children and adults over the years. We extend our sympathy to her husband, George, son Jim, and daughter Carol and family.

NMTA has sent a contribution to the MTNA Foundation in her memory.

## In Memoriam: Marguerite Hac

by Wanda Mandigo

Marguerite Hac, a charter member of LMTA, passed away on November 5, 2003, at the age of 100. She taught piano for more than 50 years and had a music school called The Chimes. She formed and conducted a unique rhythm and melody band composed of children ages 2-10. She provided the earliest musical experiences for many Lincoln students through the years. We extend our sympathies to her friends and family.

## New Member: Mary Anderson

Mrs. Mary Anderson recently joined the Nebraska Music Teachers Association. Anderson has a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Music from Hamline University in St. Paul, MN. She plays piano and organ and taught both in Minneapolis where she and her husband, Stephen, raised their two sons. In 1999 she moved to Omaha with her husband. Their two sons and three grandchildren live in Texas. Mary has taught music theory. She is currently working mornings in an office and teaching piano in the afternoons and evenings in her home.

## New Member: Marty Wheeler-Burnett

Marty Wheeler Burnett, NCTM, is the newly appointed Director of Music at the College of St. Mary in Omaha. Before moving to Nebraska this summer, she served on the faculty of The University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee. Burnett has been an active member of local and state MTNA affiliates in both Mississippi and Tennessee, and she is a Nationally Certified Teacher of Music. An organist, pianist, choral conductor, and composer, Burnett has served as parish musician for congregations in Texas, Mississippi, and Tennessee. She holds Bachelor of Music and Master of Music degrees in organ performance from Rice University in Houston, Texas. She is married to the Rt. Rev. Joe G. Burnett, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Nebraska.

## New Member: Richard Fountain

Richard Fountain, 21, originally from Springfield, NE, is a first-year masters' student in Piano Performance at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, studying with Dr. Paul Barnes. Richard holds a Bachelor of Music degree in Piano Performance (summa cum laude) from Taylor University in Upland, IN, where he studied under Dr. Leon Harshenin. In October 2001, Richard took first place in the Marion (IN) Philharmonic Orchestra Concerto Competition, and in January 2002 he won the MTNA State competition for Indiana. In October 2003, Richard won the Graduate Solo Competition at UNL, and will be performing with the UNL Orchestra in February 2004.

## New Member: Jeanne Zukowski

Zukowski holds two degrees from the University of Nebraska at Omaha: a Bachelor of Science in Home Economics (1971) and a Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance (1998). She has studied with Dr. James Johnson, Clarke Mullen, and Marsha Johnson. While pursuing her BM in Piano Performance, she began teaching private piano lessons, and since then, has continued to build her studio where she now teaches all levels of piano. She has been active in the Nebraska Federation of Music Clubs and has also been an adjudicator at several student auditions. Zukowski has been active in church music activities, both as accompanist and director, for children's, youth, and adult choirs. In June, 2003 she attended the International Church Music Festival in Bern, Switzerland as accompanist for the Bellevue Festival Choir.

## New NMTA Certification Chair . . .

Sally Hodges has been appointed the new Certification Chair for Nebraska. If you have any questions or need information concerning certification, please contact Sally. There will be a testing date at the State Conference in Lincoln, October 21-24, 2004. We also hope to have another testing date sometime early in 2004.

Address: 17078 Western Ave.  
Omaha, NE 68118  
Phone: 402-289-1860  
E-mail: [sallyspiano@cox](mailto:sallyspiano@cox.net)

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## Theory News . . . .

The NMTA Board has approved changes to the current District and State level theory program. Effective at the Spring, 2005 District Festival, a new eight-level system will be employed to replace the current four-level system. Details will be forthcoming from the State Theory Chair, Debra Heald. **NO CHANGES WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE CURRENT YEAR'S FESTIVAL SYSTEM.**

## FOUNDATION FUNDRAISER

from Linda Rogers

The 2003 MTNA Foundation Fundraiser/Raffle held in conjunction with Kansas and Missouri at the Tri-State Conference in Kansas City netted more than \$1300 - \$654 from Nebraskans. With many prizes offered in the raffle, Nebraska contributed generously with the following:

- Limited edition print (\$850 value) - won by Melissa Falkner
- Two tickets to two events at the July 2004 Meadowlark Festival, including an overnight stay at the Cornhusker (\$200 value) - won by Ken Bales
- Gift certificate to Omaha Steaks (\$50 value) - won by Joanne Ehrlich
- Nebraska basket of food and wine (\$45 value) - won by Diane Hill
- Two hardcover books (\$40 each) - won by Mary Davis and Gwen Peiper
- Ruth Hahn won the MTNA T-shirt from national.

The MTNA Foundation serves as an advocate of, and provider for, the growth of America's musical future. The Foundation supports programs that nurture the creation, performance, study and teaching of music in cooperation with Music Teachers National Association. The MTNA Foundation continues to seek new sources of funding that will further advance this mission.

## *Important Dates . . . . .*

### **MTNA National Convention (Kansas City)**

**March 25-30, 2004**

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### **2004 NMTA State Conference (Lincoln)**

**October 21-24, 2004**

**Guest Artist: Diane Bish**

*Mark your calendars now!*

### **2004 District Festival Information**

#### **Central District**

Festival Date: Saturday, May 1, 2004  
Postmark Date: Saturday, April 3, 2004  
Location: Hastings College  
Contact: Lisa Albee  
1623 Lariat Ave.  
Grand Island, NE 68803  
(308)381-8060  
lbalbee@cccusa.net

#### **Lincoln District**

Festival Date: Saturday, May 22, 2004  
Postmark Date: Friday, April 30, 2004  
Location: UNL/ Westbrook  
Contact: Svetlana Yashirin  
3009 R Street  
Lincoln, NE 68503  
(402)477-2346  
yasharin@yahoo.com

#### **Omaha District**

Festival Date: Sunday, May 2, 2004  
Postmark Date: Saturday, March 27, 2004  
Location: UNO/ Strauss PAC  
Contact: Carole Trouba  
5602 Walnut Street  
Omaha, NE 68106  
(402)552-0522  
catrouba@cox..net

#### **Western District**

Festival Date: TBA  
Postmark Date: TBA  
Location: Western NE Community  
College  
Contact: Robin Brening  
1208 Ave. "O"  
Scottsbluff, NE 69361  
(308)632-8050

## **Nebraska Music Teachers Association**

Carole Trouba, NMT Editor  
c/o Department of Music  
University of Nebraska at Omaha  
6001 Dodge Street  
Strauss Performing Arts Center  
Room 213  
Phone:(402)552-0522  
FAX: (402)554-2252  
E-mail: catrouba@cox.net

## **NMTA Calendar of Events**

### **NMTA District Festivals:**

<b>May 1,2004</b>	Central District (Hastings College)
<b>May 2,2004</b>	Omaha District (UNO)
<b>TBA</b>	Western District (Scottsbluff)
<b>May 22, 2004</b>	Lincoln District (UNL)

<b>Deadline for next NMT:</b>	March 1, 2004
<b>Spring NMT published:</b>	April, 2004
<b>MTNA National Convention:</b>	March 25-30, 2004
<b>2004 NMTA State Conference:</b>	October 21-24, 2004