

Nebraska Music Teacher

Nebraska Music Teacher - NMTA Newsletter

June 2007

From the President



Greetings! I trust that each of you has received the first copy of the NMTA Bulletin that was sent to you in April. It will be mailed approximately every two months. In addition to the NMTA web site and newsletter, this publication is designed to provide you with the latest information regarding the organization that is time sensitive. To date I have received very favorable comments regarding this new addition to our operations and encourage others to contact any of

the NMTA Board members or me to express your point of view. The Board will review and evaluate this new three-pronged approach to communication at its March, 2008 meeting.

The newsletter will still be produced three times a year but put on-line at our web site. If you want a hard copy of this publication you will be able to print it yourself or have it printed. Soon you will be receiving a postcard to indicate if you want to continue to receive your newsletter in the traditional format at the cost of printing and mailing.

By the time you receive this newsletter the 2007 District Festivals will have taken place. I want to thank all of the Festival

Coordinators and everyone else who makes this spring event so tremendous. The dedication and professionalism that is brought forth for the District Festivals each year is a testimony to our wonderful organization.

In March we had a small but mighty delegation from Nebraska represent the state at the MTNA National Conference that was held in conjunction with the Canadian Federation of Music Teachers Associations, the Music Teachers National Association and the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto, Ontario. All of us in were proud of the achievements of Regina Carnazzo and her student Mitchell Breeling, Joan Reist and Nancy Whitman. You can find more about their recognitions within the following pages of this newsletter.

Remember that the MTNA 2008 National Conference will be held in Denver, Colorado on March 29 – April 2. Since Colorado and Nebraska are part of the MTNA West Central Division, Nebraskans will be asked to help out at this meeting. Let's make sure that we support our neighboring state and have a record number of Nebraskans attending.

*Roger Foltz, President
Department of Music
University of Nebraska of Omaha
Omaha, NE 68182-0245
rfoltz@mail.unomaha.edu*

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Outstanding Teaching and Instructional Creativity Award

This year's recipient of the University of Nebraska Outstanding Teaching and Instructional Creativity Award is Dr. Valerie Cisler.

Dr. Cisler was nominated for her quality teaching expertise in the fields of both piano performance and pedagogy. She has raised the level of distinction at UNK by developing an extensive curriculum in piano pedagogy, publishing seven books which are used and distributed internationally, and helping to establish a Music Pedagogy Resource Center at UNK. Her excellence in teaching is

reflected in the success of her students; young motivated musicians who excel in music and scholarship and who are consistently selected for prestigious placement.

The Outstanding Teaching and Instructional Creativity Award recognizes individual faculty members for sustained records of excellence in teaching. The award was established in 1991 and carries a \$5,000 honorarium.



*Dr. Valerie Cisler, D.M.A.
Professor of Music
Chair, Department of Music and Performing Arts
University of Nebraska of Kearney*

Piano Duet Competition Announced

We are proud to once again announce the MTNA Nebraska state competitions. The competitions will take place concurrently with the NMTA state conference October 25-26, 2007, in Kearney. Last year we had more entries in the areas outside of piano than we have had in some time, and we hope that the trend will continue, as well as the continued strong piano entries.

While the competitions will continue to include piano, strings, voice, woodwinds, brass, and chamber music at the junior, senior, and young artist levels, this year we are excited about an additional competition opportunity for pianists. MTNA has added a Piano Duet (one piano/four hands) category into the

Senior level only (ages 15-18). The applicants may be from one or two teachers, but both teachers must be listed on the application and must pay current active MTNA dues or the Nonmember Teacher Entry Fee. Contestants may also enter any other MTNA competition for which they are eligible. For more information, see page 39 of the April/May *American Music Teacher* or visit the website at MTNA.org.

The deadline for entries will be September 11, 2007. Winners and representatives in this event compete at Division level in January. Winners of Division will compete at the MTNA Conference in Denver, Colorado, March 29-April 2, 2008.

Letter from the President

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The NMTA 2007 Conference will be held in Kearney, Nebraska on October 25 – 28. World-renowned pianist Anton Nel and internationally known pedagogue Sam Holland will be the two headliners. More detailed information and registration materials will be available during the first part of the summer or on the NMTA web site. The Conference will be held in conjunction with the NMTA festivals and the NMTA/MTNA competitions. Soon you will soon be receiving information about the state's first fundraiser for another non-profit organization. NMTA will sponsor a Play-A-Thon at the Hilltop Mall in Kearney as a fund raiser for the Museum of Nebraska Art. This will provide students an opportunity to perform their prepared repertoire not only for the festivals and competitions but also as a part of the Play-A-Thon.

Best wishes for a great summer and a generous voice of gratitude to each of you who make NMTA an organization in which we can all take pride!

Payment of Dues

Dues statements for 2007-2008 have recently been sent to members. When paying dues, please be sure to update with current e-mail, phone number and teaching areas. This is the information supplied on the NMTA *Find a Teacher* website.

Changing Contact Information

At any time during the year, if you have a name, address, phone or e-mail change, it should first be sent to MTNA National Headquarters.

Elaine Donaldson,
MTNA Director of Membership Processing
Phone: 513/421-1420, ext. 230
or edonaldson@mtna.org

Then, notify Marcia Wiebers, NMTA Membership Chair, so that she can update the NMTA website and mailing label information.

Phone 402/420-1842 or
hw31835@alltel.net

2007 NMTA Conference

It is my pleasure to announce that the 2007 Nebraska Music Teachers State Conference will take place October 25-26 at the University of Nebraska-Kearney. World-renowned concert pianist Anton Nel will be the guest artist. Mr. Nel will perform a piano recital on Thursday evening, and on Friday he will present a piano master class. The guest pedagogue for the 2007 Conference is Dr. Samuel Holland, associate professor of music and head of keyboard studies and pedagogy at Southern Methodist University Meadows School of the Arts. For detailed biographical information about Anton Nel and Dr. Holland, please visit the NMTA Web Site Conference page: <http://nebmta.org/conference.php>

A detailed schedule for the Conference will be mailed in July, and a Registration Form is included in this newsletter. Mark the dates of October 25-26 on your calendar now and plan to attend the 2007 NMTA Conference in Kearney. You'll be glad you did!

The Conference Hotel will be the Ramada Inn, located at 301 Second Avenue in Kearney is as follows:

Ramada Inn 301 2nd Ave.
Kearney, NE 68847
Phone: (308) 237-7026
Phone for reservations: (800) 652-1900

NMTA Conference Rate:

\$69 per night

Contact the hotel directly and ask for
**Nebraska Music Teachers
Conference Rate**

**Last date to make reservation with
reduced rate:** September 24, 2007

Cut-off date: September 15, 2007

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2007 NMTA Conference

NMTA 2005-2006 Treasurer's Report

The hotel will continue to accept reservations after that date on a space available basis at the current suite rates. There is no guarantee that group rates will be available after the cut-off date.

Features include:

- Free Deluxe Continental Breakfast
- Free Wireless High-speed Internet

Website:

www.ramadakearney.com

Projected Income 2006-2007

Dues Income	6800.00
Interest	45.00
District Festivals	14100.00
State Competitions	7900.00
<u>2007 State Conference</u>	<u>6500.00</u>
TOTAL	\$35,345.00

Projected Expenses 2006-2007

Web Site	300.00
Board Expenses	2500.00
District Festivals	10500.00
Travel Award	500.00
Newsletter	2200.00
State Competitions	9000.00
2006 State Conference	8000.00
Contributions	425.00
Tax Expense	300.00
<u>Bank Charge</u>	<u>30.00</u>
TOTAL	\$33,755.00

www.nebmta.org

NMTA New Member Directory

Name	Address	City	State	Zip	Phone	Email
Dawn Beyl	915 Chapel Hill Dr.	Elkhorn	NE	68022	402-359-1061	dabeyls@yahoo.com
Patty Bounds	1112 Angus Dr.	Norfolk	NE	68701	402-841-1874	pbounds@conpoint.com
Jessica Freeman	3022 Browning St.	Lincoln	NE	68516	402-328-0102	organjess@yahoo.com
Shanna Mathia	11844 Jackson Rd.	Omaha	NE	68154	402-498-3701	mmathia4@cox.net
Dana Pavuk	1927 S. Arthur St.	Grand Island	NE	68803	308-381-2472	soladeo1972@yahoo.com
Student Memberships						
Jennifer Donelson	218 Fairfield St.	Lincoln	NE	68521	402-328-2714	jdonelso2000@yahoo.com
Rachel Hearn	7724 Greenleaf Dr.	LaVista	NE	68128	402-650-2714	
Katie Ringleman	1065 Main St. 3A	Chadron	NE	69337	308-882-8348	karing@csc.edu
Jessica Vansteenburgh	1601 F Street #3	Lincoln	NE	68508		
Reinstating Members						
Judith Bigler	1540 Twin Ridge Rd.	Lincoln	NE	68504	402-489-5444	DAALBI@aol.com
Kelly Cleays	160492 County Rd. 23	Gering	NE	69341	308-463-2292	
Donavan Johnson	7504 Valley Rd.	LaVista	NE	68128	402-345-1116	donavanjohnson@cox.net
Nicole Narboni	210 S. 28th St.	Lincoln	NE	68510	402-423-2119	nnarboni1@unl.edu
Beth Stoppkotte*	1209 W. First St.	Grand Island	NE	68801	308-382-3639	bstoppkotte@hastings.edu
Dawn Moore**	706 W. 3rd St.	Wayne	NE	68787	402-651-3696	damoore01@gmail.com

* changing from Collegiate Membership to Full Membership

**Reinstating Collegiate Membership

NEBRASKA MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION STATE CONFERENCE

Anton Nel and Dr. Samuel Holland, Featured Conference Artists
October 25-26, 2007
University of Nebraska at Kearney, Kearney, Nebraska

PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____ MTNA Member # _____

Address _____

_____ New Member

_____ First Time Attending NMTA State Conference

Conference Pre-Registration

MTNA Member	\$45.00	postmarked by Mon., Oct. 1, 2007	_____
MTNA Member	\$55.00	postmarked after Mon., Oct. 1, 2007	_____
MTNA Student Member	\$10.00	postmarked by Mon., Oct. 1, 2007	_____
MTNA Student Member	\$15.00	postmarked after Mon. Oct. 1, 2007	_____
Non-member MTNA	\$65.00		_____
Student Non-member	\$25.00		_____

(Registrations include one ticket to the Anton Nel recital valued at \$15.00.)

Awards Luncheon – Friday _____ tickets @ \$18.00 each **Total** _____
(Luncheon reservations must be postmarked by October 1, 2007)

Vegetarian Option (Chef's Choice) **Mark Here** _____

Additional Tickets to the Anton Nel Recital at the University of Nebraska at Kearney
Thursday evening _____ tickets @ \$15.00 each **Total** _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED _____

Please list the names of guests who will attend the conference with you and include the appropriate conference fee.

Awards Luncheon reservations must be made by **October 1, 2007**.

Please send checks made payable to **NMTA** to:
Dr. Tom Ediger
Department of Music
Peru State College
P.O. Box 10
Peru, NE 68421

Festival Theory as a Teaching Tool

As we have moved from the four levels of music theory to the new format with eight levels, I have received many requests for worksheets, more practice tests, and the like. However, the theory committee is of the opinion that this would be far too limiting to the independent music teacher.

The table of music theory contained in the current Festival Manual can be considered a "scope and sequence" of music theory. This is a common term in educational circles, and here is a definition:

"a curriculum plan, usually in chart form, in which a range of instructional objectives, skills, etc., is organized according to the successive levels at which they are taught."

NMTA, in the theory table, has already answered the question, "What content should be required?" The theory committee of Nebraska Music Teachers does not and should not dictate the Instructional Design. What is Instructional Design? The concept of instructional design invites the individual teacher to ask, "How should that content be delivered?"

Perhaps the most common model used for creating instructional materials is the ADDIE Model. This acronym stands for the 5 phases contained in the model:

Analyze - analyze learner characteristics, task to be learned, etc.

Design - develop learning objectives, choose an instructional approach

Develop - create instructional or training materials

Implement - deliver or distribute the instructional materials

Evaluate - make sure the materials achieved the desired goals

Through the NMTA Festivals, we are providing the "evaluate" section of this model. Each individual teacher will design his or her own curriculum to fit the students in that studio. Does that mean each teacher must make up a complete theory curriculum and their own worksheets? Perhaps, if the teacher desires that, but there are many fine music theory resources readily available. However, when using published music theory material, the individual teacher may need to adjust when a concept is taught. In other words, you may not be following a text page by page straight through the book!

Here is a brief overview of how I use the "theory table" as a scope and sequence in my studio. Since I have 36 weeks of lessons, I have divided the

concepts in the table into nine groups. For example one group is "key signatures" and another group is "scales and scale degrees". Each student in my studio is classified in one of the eight theory levels. This does not mean that every student enters Festivals (though I strongly encourage that!) but each student will be going through the theory levels regardless of whether or not they enter Festivals.

Each week we have a studio "theme" which matches one of the nine groups. So we have "scales" week and an "intervals" week for every student in the studio. The concept is presented/taught/reviewed at the appropriate level for each individual student. My 36 weeks of lessons are divided into four quarters, so since I have 9 groups of concepts, each group gets covered four times each year.

While I am constantly tweaking my curriculum, including games, worksheets, computer instruction, and published music theory, I am also over time developing a reusable lesson plan for my studio. You might try something similar in your studio; maybe you will be surprised like me on how much more comprehensive your teaching becomes!

Debra Heald, NCTM
NMTA Theory Chair

Breeling Wins Junior Composition Competition

Mitchell Breeling of Omaha, Nebraska, won top honors at the Music Teachers National Association (MTNA) Junior Composition Competition.

Breeling, an eighth grader at a Millard Public School in Omaha, is the son of Jeff and Jackie Breeling. He has been studying composition for five years.

The MTNA Composition Competition was judged prior to the 2007 CFMTA-MTNA-RCM Conference, in March. As a national competition winner, Breeling received \$1,000, provided by Morty and Iris Manus. His composition was performed in a winner's recital.

The three-tiered MTNA competitions begin at the state level. First-place

winners of each state's competition advance to a division competition. Division winners compete in the national finals.

www.nebmta.org

Whitman Named MTNA Foundation Fellow

Nancy Whitman of Lincoln, Nebraska, was recently honored by Music Teachers National Association as an MTNA FOUNDATION Fellow at the 2007 CFMTA-MTNA-RCM Collaborative Conference in Toronto, Ontario.

Whitman was formerly a member of the University of Nebraska at Kearney music faculty and is now emeritus. She has served MTNA and the Nebraska Music Teachers Association in many capacities, including NMTA president from 1987–1991. Whitman was also the West Central Division president, on the MTNA Board of Directors and the MTNA nominating committee. Currently, she is on the NMTA board of directors and is involved with several Lincoln arts

organizations. Whitman also collaborates as a pianist with several performing groups.

The MTNA FOUNDATION Fellow program offers a meaningful method of recognition for individuals who have made outstanding contributions to music teaching. The award is bestowed when a peer or group of peers donates \$1,000 to the MTNA FOUNDATION FUND in an individual's name.

For additional information about MTNA or the MTNA FOUNDATION FUND please contact the MTNA national headquarters at (888) 512-5278, mtnanet@mtna.org or visit the website at www.mtna.org.

MTNA Conference in Toronto, Ontario by Regina Carnazzo

I've been a member of MTNA for nearly 30 years and have been to three National Conferences...in Little Rock, Kansas City, and now, thanks to the generosity of Nebraska Music Teachers Association and their \$500 travel grant, Toronto. Little Rock and Kansas City were great conferences, but Toronto was truly a "landmark event" for me, both personally and professionally.

It was the first time I had ever been out of the country. I owned a passport (thankfully), but had never used it. I had never been through customs, and had never used foreign money... all very interesting landmarks in my life.

But those were personal, rather small landmarks compared to the reason I attended the conference. My composition student, Mitchell Breeling, was chosen as the National Winner of the Junior Composition Competition. His family and I were elated, and because of the generosity of NMTA, I was there to enjoy every moment of this

landmark in my life as a teacher and in his life as a student composer. My piano student, Beau Odegard, also accompanied us, along with his mother, so that he could play Mitchell's winning piece.

It was an amazing experience. To see and hear the caliber of student musicians performing on our winner's concert, to meet the Presidents of Alfred Music, the sponsors of Mitchell's Award, to experience the pride I saw on the faces of Mitchell's and Beau's parents, and to understand the turning point this was for both my students was overwhelming. Mitchell has grappled with some significant learning difficulties in his life, and music is his gift and his escape. To be honored in this way was significant.

Beau is a senior in high school and has also grappled with learning difficulties as well. He played the performance of his life.

Reist Receives Service Award

Joan Reist, NCTM, was awarded the third annual MTNA Distinguished Service Award at the CFMTA-MTNA-RCM Collaborative Conference in Toronto, Ontario, from March 23–27, 2007.

Reist spent 33 years as an independent music teacher and 28 years as director of the keyboard skills and piano pedagogy programs at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, from which she holds bachelor's and master's of music degrees. Through the years, Reist served MTNA in a variety of offices, most notably president from 1999–2001. Other positions Reist has held at the national level include chair of the MTNA Junior High competitions, MTNA vice president for Professional Activities, MTNA vice president for Membership, MTNA secretary, MTNA president-elect and special assistant for MTNA FOUNDATION Development. She also served as president of the Nebraska MTA.

Since retiring in 2001, Reist has stayed busy by serving as the advocacy chair on the executive board of the Nebraska Music Educators Association and as the district director for Mu Phi Epsilon. She is also a member of the Arts Education Committee of Nebraskans for the Arts and is on the board of Lincoln's ensemble, The Third Chair Chamber Players.

Article Submissions

Please send articles that you want submitted to the NMTA newsletter to jsokasits@hastings.edu or bryce.wiebe@gmail.com. Make sure that you note your affiliation with NMTA in the subject line to eliminate confusion. Submit any pictures that you would like to include as a separate file

2007 Adjudication Form

NEBRASKA MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION
FESTIVAL
Adjudication Form

Festival No: _____ Level: _____ Length of Study: _____ Date: _____

REPERTOIRE

Title	Composer	Key	Style Period
1 _____	_____	_____	_____
2 _____	_____	_____	_____

AREAS OF ASSESSMENT (rate + above average, ✓ satisfactory or - needs improvement for each selection performed)

SKILL	SELECTION		SKILL	SELECTION		SKILL	SELECTION	
	1	2		1	2		1	2
Note Accuracy			Tempo			General Musicality		
Rhythm			Technique/Facility			Memorization		
Tone Quality			Phrasing/Articulation			Stage Presence		

Scale Evaluation (+, ✓ or -) _____
Scales in the tonalities of the compositions are required.

COMMENTS

Please comment on strengths and weaknesses of the performance.



Nebraska Music Teachers Association
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Email: jsokasits@hastings.edu

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Nebraska Music Teacher - NMTA Newsletter

June 2007

Calendar of Events

September 11, 2007

MTNA Competition, NMTA Competitive and NMTA State Festival application deadline

October 25 - 26, 2007

State Conference and MTNA Competitions - University of Nebraska at Kearney

October 27 - 28, 2007

State Festivals and Competitions - University of Nebraska at Kearney

January 18 - 20, 2008

West Central Division Meeting - Iowa State University (Ames, Iowa)

May 29 - April 2, 2008

MTNA National Conference - Denver, Colorado