

Nebraska Music Teacher

Nebraska Music Teacher - NMTA Newsletter

Summer 2008

*From the
President*



Greetings!

As I write this letter I am still basking in the wonderful experiences of this year's MTNA National Conference. It was good to see so many Nebraskans! Our state was not only well represented in attendance, but with the number of national and division officers we have. We were particularly proud to see Wanda Mandigo and Tom Ediger honored as 2008 MTNA Foundation Fellows.

Wanda and Tom now become part of a group of seven Nebraska MTNA Fellows. Congratulations!

From time to time I hear the questions, "What do I get out of being a member of MTNA?" Since this is the time for dues renewal I thought it would be timely to address this point based upon some thoughts from Phyllis Pieffer, NCTM, Director of MTNA Member Development.

"First of all, MTNA is committed to its members. Its vast array of programs and services are developed with the member in mind. This includes: 1) educational programs and resources for teachers, 2) student participation opportunities at all levels, and 3) benefits for teachers.

These are some of the tangible items, but there are more meaningful reasons to join MTNA that go to the very "heart" of the organization. Belonging to MTNA is being a part of a community of committed music professionals who advance the value of music to society and support the professionalism of music teachers. MTNA enables us to speak with one voice allowing us to make a difference and enriching the lives of our students. We reach across the nation and around the world. Being a part of this world community empowers each of us to speak with conviction and support on behalf of music."

Beyond that is how MTNA helps each member to grow as a music teacher and leader in the community. Debra Florian, NCTM, Northwest Division Director said it this way:

"When I evaluate my own teaching, I am a far better teacher today than even 10 years ago. If I compare to when I first started teaching, there IS no comparison. And that is a direct result of my MTNA membership and participation. And further, I

am confident that 10 years from now I will be an even stronger teacher—because I will still be active in MTNA, still attending conferences, classes, workshops, and interacting with my fellow teachers. I can't imagine what my teaching career would have been like without MTNA. And I hate to think of any independent teachers trying to succeed and GROW without this tremendous asset and resource."

This is the heart of MTNA and what this organization is all about—it goes far beyond the dollar amount of the annual membership. It is that intangible benefit that is priceless.

In this light I am pleased to announce news that illustrates the fact that MTNA is indeed working for you. Members can now choose new benefits through a partnership with the Trust for Insuring Educators—an organization established to bring educational associations together to secure competitive insurance plans and rates. In addition to comprehensive health care, the following programs are available:

- Professional Liability
- Private Practice Professional Liability
- Group Term Life
- 10-Year Level Group Term Life
- Group Disability Income Protection
- Group Accidental Death & Dismemberment
- Identity Theft Protection
- Personal Auto
- Long Term Care Insurance Evaluation Service

Also the trust provides association insurance services, including:

- Association Professional Liability
- Directors and Officers Liability
- Property/Casualty Coverage
- Convention Interruption Insurance

To find out more you can visit <http://www.ftj.com/> or Forrest T. Jones and Company at (800) 821-7303.

In conclusion, I hope that you and your students have a relaxing and productive summer. Remember that this time is ideal to prepare students for some special activities such as the MTNA Piano Duet Competition or Composition Competition for this fall! Best wishes as I look forward to seeing each of you at our state conference in October.

LMTA Music Outreach Program

The Lincoln Music Teachers Association – Music Outreach Program is pleased again to offer music lessons to deserving students who would otherwise not be able to afford them. As in years past, the challenge is always providing enough professional teachers to meet the overwhelming need. Therefore, we are currently recruiting LMTA members to participate. We are trying to continue a tremendously worthy cause, wherein we make a difference in this world, one child at a time. Read why one of our previous teachers and a current applicant chose to participate:

“Because of the many notes and letters of sincere appreciation I have received from participating teachers, parents and the students themselves, the support of donors, and the recognition that LMTA has received due to this program, I am convinced our efforts are worthwhile. LMTA-MOP not only benefits those receiving lessons, but people in hospitals, nursing homes, schools and the community where we concentrate our service recitals. Ultimately, we all win as these students who would not ordinarily afford music lessons grow up and give back.”

Becoming an LMTA-MOP teacher is a simple three-step procedure: application to the program, contractual agreement, student match. Here are testimonials from two of our most recent applicants:

“Filling out the application was very easy. 10 minutes.”

“Application is simple. Complete your contact information, agree to abide by the rules of the program, pay \$15 for a background check and submit a copy of your insurance policy covering a service business in your home. This should not be a deterrent for any teacher since we all should carry business insurance anyway, and it can

be added to your homeowners policy for a very small fee. Completing the paperwork took about five minutes. Finding the envelope and the stamp to mail in the application was the most challenging!”

The Lincoln Music Teachers Association Music Outreach Program began in 1997 as an affiliate to the Music Teachers National Association MusicLink Program, with support from the NMTA Board. In 2002, MusicLink discontinued its association with MTNA. At that point, the LMTA leadership chose to continue a similar program locally, renaming it LMTA Music Outreach. In 2005, grants were awarded to further fund the program with a new component of partial teacher reimbursement for instruction. Grants were provided by the Nebraska Arts Council, Delta Omicron, The Rolofson Foundation, Music Teachers National Association, The Cooper Foundation, The Lincoln Community Outreach Foundation, and the Weibe Charitable Foundation. Play-a-thons were added to further raise funds, and service recitals were introduced to further reach the general public. Dietze Music House has supported the program since its inception in 1997.

Thus far, approximately one hundred students have been served by fifty teachers. In 2007, a standardized program LMTA-MOP was designed and approved by the LMTA Board. This Program now reaches all interested students who meet financial criteria. Teachers continue to contract for services with LMTA. The Policies and Procedures Manual strives to assure excellence in instructional standards and consistency in student eligibility and program administration. Data is now being recorded for the purpose of historical documentation, accountability regarding population served, and credibility in searching for other supporting sources.

So, there you have it. There is no better time than the present to spread this exciting program to your district! Just e-mail Donna Baddeley at <1st baddtimes@earthlink.net> or (402) 890-9664 for further information.

- Donna Baddeley, NCTM

OMTA News

OMTA began its busy season with the 2008 Fun Fair on February 9. Over 400 students participated this year. 71 trophies and 61 special rosettes were awarded to students. In addition to trophies and rosettes, cash awards totaling \$595.00 were given to 22 students in the upper levels. On February 23 the third annual Edna Taylor Composition Contest and Recital took place. A choral piece, a piano solo, and a contemporary percussion piece were among the highlights. At the conclusion of the recital, students were awarded first place prizes in 3 divisions totaling \$120.00. Also in February we announced our first winner of the \$1000.00 Senior Scholarship, Olivia Krueger, a student of Lisa Greve Batten.

On March 8 the Young Artist Competition was held. There were 38 participants from 11 studios this year showcasing our best students. Cash awards totaling \$1510.00 were given to students who

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

www.nebmta.org

NMTA New Member Directory

Name	Address	City, State Zip	Phone	Email
Ann Barnes	2300 S 75th	Lincoln, NE 68506	402-730-3568	achang-barnes@unl.edu
Haesuk Bates	7330 S. 18th St.	Lincoln, NE 68512	402-328-8840	haesuk7330@yahoo.com
Michelle Lindgren	13317 Mathiesen Dr.	Blair, NE 68008	402-533-2897	lindgren@gpcom.net
Mirela Mlynska	14109 Pierce Plaza #32	Omaha, NE 68144	402-504-4494	mirela42@hotmail.com
Denis Vladimirovich Plutalov	939 S. 11th St #D	Lincoln, NE 68508	402-570-4169	dplutalov@gmail.com
Mikiko Sakamoto	2333 Lynn #5	Lincoln, NE 68503	254-722-8347	mikiko_saka@hotmail.com
Alicia Wood	2531 Caldwell St #224	Omaha, NE 68131	402-238-7519	mommywood314@yahoo.com

New Collegiate Members

Jennifer Carlson	946 Main St. #7	Chadron, NE 69337	308-432-6570	jc mood@csc.edu
April Christensen	4410 Road G	Hardy, NE 68943	402-879-1430	achristensen@hastings.edu
Sara German	540 N. 16th St.	Lincoln, NE 68508	308-882-1679	saragerman89@gmail.com
Marshall Dominick Keough	RR2 Box 1A	Arcadia, NE 68815	308-789-6156	marshalldominickkeough@yahoo.com
Christopher Mooter	15921 Old Barn Ln.	Kennard, NE 68034	402-427-7555	cmooter@mail.unomaha.edu
Amanda L. Morris	502 E. 10th St. HR618	Chadron, NE 69337	308-432-7099	ammorr@csc.edu
Yevgeniy Reznik	501 N. 25th St. #4	Lincoln, NE 68503	616-334-4346	

From the President Elect

The 2008 Nebraska Music Teachers State Conference is slated for October 16-17 at Nebraska Wesleyan University in Lincoln. World-renowned concert pianist Ann Schein will be our Guest Artist. Ms. Schein will perform a piano recital on Thursday evening and will present a piano master class on Friday. Our Guest Pedagogue for the 2008 Conference is Dr. Helen Marlais, associate professor of piano and director of piano pedagogy at Grand Valley State University in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Dr. Marlais recently presented a showcase session for FJH Music Publications at the MTNA National Conference in Denver. For detailed

biographical information about Ann Schein and Dr. Helen Marlais, please visit the NMTA web site at: <http://nebmta.org/conference.php>

Dana Wilson, the NMTA 2008 Composer of the Year, will be present at the Conference when his NTMA commissioned composition for piano will be premiered by Jonathan Sokasits. Other sessions will be announced in a summer mailing. The annual awards luncheon and meeting, recognition of teacher and service awards, and the raffle are just a few of the activities that will add to the fun of attending the 2008 State Conference.

A detailed schedule for the Conference will be mailed in July, and a Registration Form is included in this newsletter, as well as information about the Conference hotel. Mark the dates of October 16-17 on your calendar now and plan to attend the 2008 NMTA State Conference in Lincoln. You'll be glad you did!

Larry E. Jones, DMA, NCTM
NMTA President-Elect
Department of Music
Nebraska Wesleyan University
Lincoln, NE 68504-2794
lej@nebrwesleyan.edu

Travel Grant Recipient Report

My experience at the MTNA National Convention was like nothing I've ever experienced before. It was the first convention that I've ever attended, and I'm glad to say that I benefited a lot from it. I had the opportunity to visit numerous exhibits, make connections with other musicians, and compete in the MTNA Woodwind Division Final Competition. There were many exhibits to view at the convention. The purpose of all of these exhibits varied – some were purely informational, while others had the latest products and accessories for musicians. There were also exhibits showcasing new method and instructional books. I personally benefited from the exhibits as I was able to witness what is popular and successful in the music market today. I was also able to get an idea of the items that would be necessary for me to one day start my own clarinet studio.

Another aspect of the convention that was useful was the ability to meet other up-and-coming musicians and teachers from around the country. I was able to talk with the people I met and get more ideas regarding teaching and playing professionally. These ideas will be very helpful for me in my development as an aspiring musician and professor. I even ran in to some of my former teachers and colleagues while at the convention! The part of the convention that I looked forward to the most, however, was the final round of the Woodwind Division Competition. I spent months preparing for this moment – I had to place first in both a State and a Regional competition in order to make it to finals - and it felt very rewarding to be chosen to share my passion for music and my hard work with others who share a passion for music. It was definitely an experience I will never forget.

All in all, I am so incredibly thankful to have been a part of this year's

convention. Without the existence of MTNA, this experience wouldn't be possible for today's musicians, and I may not have been able to attend the convention. I hope to be a part of the convention again in the future, and I would strongly recommend that anyone who is able to attend it next year does so!

- Yevgeniy Reznik

Please send articles that you want included in 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

Check for updates at:

www.nebmta.org

In Memory

Lorene Turnbull
January 9, 1931-January 1, 2008

Lorene Turnbull was a member of MTNA, NMTA, and OMTA since 1981. On the state level she served as editor of the NMTA Newsletter from 1989-1997. Her duties included assembling information, printing and mailing the publication, all done in the days when it wasn't as easy as it is now. She also served at the District Music festivals in Theory. She was one of the first teachers to include theory instruction on the computer, making use of MIDI technology. In 2003 she was awarded The Nebraska Music Teachers Association's Service Award.

Locally, Lorene served as a long-time board member of OMTA. She currently was serving as Historian for the organization; she also served as Treasurer. For many years Lorene headed the committee for the Colossal Keyboard Concert, whose members spent many hours playing through music on her baby grand upstairs and studio piano downstairs. Lorene was always a wonderful hostess for the many OMTA meetings held in her home. She loved teaching, was a hard worker, and went out of her way on her student's behalf to provide the best possible piano instruction. We will miss her greatly.

OMTA News, continued

placed First, Second and Honorable Mention in three categories, Junior, Intermediate, and Senior.

In April we had an exciting weekend starting Friday, April 18. Maurice Hinson was the clinician at our spring workshop. The all-day workshop was free for our members and was an

invigorating way to end our season of monthly programs. On Saturday April 19, the Trophy Festival took place with over 160 participants. Our season will end with the Spring Luncheon on May 16 at Grisanti's. The new slate of officers will be sworn in at that time.

- Jan Zimmerman

Nebraska Music Teachers Honored as MTNA Foundation Fellows

CINCINNATI, OH (May 2008)—Thomas Ediger, of Nebraska City, Nebraska, and Wanda Mandigo, of Waverly, Nebraska, were recently honored by Music Teachers National Association as MTNA Foundation Fellows at the 2008 MTNA National Conference in Denver, Colorado.

Ediger, a Nationally Certified Teacher of Music, is director of choral activities and professor of music at Peru State College in Peru, Nebraska. He directs choirs, teaches other music courses and maintains a private piano studio. Ediger is the MTNA West Central Division director and has been chair of MTNA's Composer Commissioning

program. Active in Nebraska MTA, he has served as composition chair, treasurer, vice-president and president.

Mandigo holds a master's of music degree from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. She has maintained a private music studio for more than 40 years, teaching piano and voice lessons, and has served as the choir director at First United Methodist Church in Waverly, Nebraska, since 1971. Mandigo has been president of the Lincoln Alumni chapter of Mu Phi Epsilon and also served as director for the North Central District. She has also served as president of the Lincoln MTA and Nebraska MTA. Currently, she is the

Nebraska MTA's Awareness and Advocacy chair.

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 Foundaton 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.

State Conference Hotel Accomodations

Country Inn and Suites
5353 North 27th Street
Lincoln, NE 68521
Phone: 402.476.5353
FAX: 402.476.5445

NMTA Rate: \$89 per night, plus tax
Complimentary Continental Breakfast Buffet
Large Indoor Pool & Hot Tub
Beacon Hills Restaurant on premises

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

Cut-off date: September 14, 2008

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.

**NEBRASKA MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION
STATE CONFERENCE**

Ann Schein and Dr. Helen Marlais, Featured Conference Artists

October 16-17, 2008

Nebraska Wesleyan University, Lincoln, 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 Thurs. Sept. 25, 2008	_____
MTNA Member	\$55.00	postmarked after Thurs. Sept. 25, 2008	_____
MTNA Student Member	\$10.00	postmarked by Thurs. Sept. 25, 2008	_____
MTNA Student Member	\$15.00	postmarked after Thurs. Sept. 25, 2008	_____
Non-member MTNA	\$65.00		_____
Student Non-member	\$25.00		_____

(Registration includes one ticket to the Ann Schein recital, valued at \$15.00)

Additional Tickets to the Ann Schein Recital at Nebraska Wesleyan University

Thursday evening: _____ tickets @ \$15.00 each Extra recital tickets \$ _____

Awards Luncheon on Friday: _____ tickets @ \$18.00 each Luncheon total \$ _____

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

(Luncheon reservations must be postmarked by Sept. 25, 2008)

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

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

Please send the completed Registration Form and a check made payable to NMTA to:

Dr. Thomas Ediger
Department of Music
Peru State College
P.O. Box 10
Peru, NE 68421

Nebraska Music Teachers Association
Dr. Jonathan Sokasits, Secretary
710 N Turner Ave. Hastings, NE 68901-7621
Email: jsokasits@hastings.edu

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Other info is available at

www.nebmta.org

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