

WMTA NEWSLETTER

May 2021

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About Our Organization

Since 1910, Wisconsin Music Teachers Association has continued in its goal to develop, maintain, and recognize high standards of music instruction and performance in Wisconsin.

We accomplish this by supporting students and educators with events, resources and a powerful network of like-minded individuals.

By providing structure and activities at local, state, divisional, and national levels, we work together to accomplish goals which couldn't be achieved by working alone.

The first official meeting of the WMTA was held on June 22, 1910 in Appleton Wisconsin under the direction of the first president, Dean William Harper.

Our state now has 14 active local associations which provide regular meetings, student programs, teacher development, membership networking and so much more.

As an affiliate of Music Teachers National Association, we share common objectives and values with musicians and musical educators in all 50 states.

MTNA was founded in 1876 and is the oldest professional nonprofit music teachers association in the United States.

We actively endorse

the MTNA mission "to advance the value of music study and music making to society and to support the professionalism of music teachers".

Our mission is to advance the value of music study and music making to society and to support the professionalism of music teachers.

Calendar of Events

- **May 22**
Badger Results In Ovation
- **June 4**
Executive Board, District Audition Chairs, LA Chairs, and Admin Council Meeting
- **Aug. 15**
Early Bird Conference Registration Deadline
- **Sept. 25**
Conference Registration Deadline
- **October 22-23**
WMTA Annual Conference



Wisconsin Music Teachers Association

Part of Music Teachers National Association

Letter From The President

Dear WMTA Members,

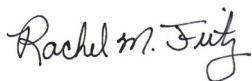
You did it! As this appears we are in the middle of the completion of Badger Auditions. This means that WMTA as an organization managed to move all student activities to a virtual format in the past year: Badger Auditions, Collegiate Study Grants, District Auditions, MTNA Performance and Composition Competitions, and Young Composer Competition. This was not an easy task. Each of you and your students made it possible. Thank you very much for your continued participation.

So now we ask ourselves "What have we learned?". We have the opportunity to reflect on what we have learned from doing these events virtually. How does this inform our future events? What can we keep? What was missing from the experience? What was enhanced? What do we never want to do again? I am sure that many of you have already done something similar in your studios as some have been able to return to in-person teaching. We get to do the same thing as an organization.

We also have the opportunity to look forward. Are you looking forward to the 2021 conference? Have you attended in the past? Maybe this could be a new opportunity for you to join your fellow members? It always proves to be two days filled with music making, teaching ideas, and seeing old friends and making new ones.

I am looking forward to seeing you all in the future.

Sincerely,



Rachel Fritz, WMTA President



WMTA Leadership

Executive Board

PRESIDENT: Rachel Fritz rachelfritz@yahoo.com

IMMEDIATE PAST-PRESIDENT: Nicholas Phillips, NCTM phillins@uwec.edu

1ST VP-CONFERENCE: Kayme Henkel, NCTM kaymehenkel@yahoo.com

2ND VP-MEMBERSHIP: Justin Krueger, NCTM justind.krueger@gmail.com

TREASURER: Sydney Alexander sydneyalexander94@gmail.com

ARTS AWARENESS AND ADVOCACY: Teresa Drews tdrews@wcmusic.org

BADGER KEYBOARD: Mary Anne Olvera, NCTM maolvera@baldwin-telecom.net

BADGER VOCAL/INSTRUMENTAL: Opala Bilhorn opalas.music.studio@gmail.com

COLLEGE FACULTY REP: Jessica Johnson, NCTM jgjohnson@wisc.edu

DISTRICT AUDITIONS: Sandra Statz, NCTM sandra@statzmusic.com

INDEPENDENT MUSIC TEACHERS FORUM: Mickey Lytle, NCTM musicbymickey@gmail.com

LOCAL ASSOCIATION CHAIR: Mary Anne Olvera, NCTM maolvera@baldwin-telecom.net

Administrative Council

COLLABORATIVE PERFORMANCE FORUM: Kirstin Ihde ihdek@uwosh.edu

MEDIA CHAIR: Katie Nelson katharyn.nelson@gmail.com

MTNA CERTIFICATION: Gail Heywood NCTM gailheywood0@gmail.com

MTNA COMPETITIONS COORDINATOR: Alana Laufman alanalaufman@gmail.com

MTNA COMPOSER COMMISSIONING: Michael Mizrahi michael.d.mizrahi@lawrence.edu

MTNA FOUNDATION: William Whipple williamppwhipple@gmail.com

MTNA STUDENT COMPOSITION COMPETITION: Kaju Lee, NCTM leekaj@uwplatt.edu

MTNA JR. /SR. COMPETITIONS: Bethany Hartlaub bhartlaub@ghartlaub.com

MTNA YOUNG ARTIST/CHAMBER MUSIC: Ashley Jehn hankeashl32@gmail.com

TEACHER AWARD OF EXCELLENCE: Drew Donica drewdonica@outlook.com

THEORY: Sydney Alexander sydneyalexander94@gmail.com

WELLNESS FORUM CHAIR: Jessica Johnson, NCTM jgjohnson@wisc.edu

WMTA STUDENT COMPOSITIONS: Sam Ecoff sam@samecoff.com



Local Association Presidents

[CVMTA Chippewa Valley Music Teachers Association](#)

President: Esther Pedigo, esther.pedigo@gmail.com

[FVMTA Fox Valley Music Teachers Association](#)

President: Stacey Kraus, sakraus2@gmail.com

[GMC WMTA Greater Milwaukee Chapter](#)

President: Chrissy Deal, chrissy.deal@gmail.com

[KRMTA Kenosha Racine Music Teachers Association](#)

President: Deborah Masloski, dmasloski@gmail.com

Co-President: Judy Ballard, jballard10@wi.rr.com

[LAMTA La Crosse Area Music Teachers Association](#)

President: Reene Sampson, reene.ann.sampson@gmail.com

[MAME Madison Area Music Educators](#)

President: Denise Taylor, dtaylorpiano@gmail.com

[MAMTA Marshfield Area Music Teachers Association](#)

Contact: Janet Wolf, revjanet@tzn.net

[MMTA Michibago Music Teachers Association](#)

President: Louise Mann, louisemannpiano@gmail.com

[OAMTA Oshkosh Area Music Teachers Association](#)

President: Madison McCarney, madison.mccarney@gmail.com

[RRMTA Rock River Music Teachers Association](#)

President: Julie Hildebrandt, davidh53@frontier.com

[SAMTA Superior Area Music Teachers Association](#)

President: Roberta Grube, grube4@centurytel.net

[SCVMTA St. Croix Valley Music Teachers Association](#)

President: Mary Anne Olvera, NCTM, maryanneolvera@gmail.com

[SPAMTA Stevens Point Music Teachers Association](#)

President: Gail Heywood, NCTM, gailheywood0@gmail.com

[WAMTA Wausau Area Music Teachers Association](#)

President: Not Presently Filled



Local Associations

Hello WMTA colleagues! I am happy to be serving as your newly appointed Local Associations Chair. By way of introduction, I served on the board previously as secretary, Badger keyboard chair and president. After a three-year break from board work, I look forward to serving you again at the state level. Mary Anne Olvera has done a beautiful job so I hope to continue her work in connecting local associations.

All levels of WMTA and MTNA membership have wonderful benefits but I find the local level to be particularly energizing. I am privileged to be an active member of Fox Valley MTA in the Appleton area. My strongest teaching and personal connections are to my local members. I hope you are fortunate enough to be in a similar situation. What are some of the ways you benefit from your local association? What are your LAs strengths? And where do you think you could grow and strengthen?

Have a wonderful spring and transition into summer teaching and operations. I hope you can find time to connect with fellow teachers in casual ways over the summer to keep growing together.

From Catherine Walby, NCTM, Local Associations Chair

Badger Keyboard Competition

- **APRIL 29 - MAY 5** - CS Music is open for registration and submission to the Badger Competition - DO NOT REGISTER EARLY
- **MAY 10 - MAY 16** - Auditions will be judged
- **MAY 22** - Results will be available on Ovation

Because this year is like no other, this event is also like no other.

This year, we are organizing a statewide virtual event.

This year we will be awarding, at each grade level, a Winner, a First Runner Up, a Second Runner Up, and an unlimited number of Honorable Mentions.

This year, we will have grade levels that will require multiple judges. This means that judges choose their top 3 performers from their 'room', and all judges of that grade level will take a second look at all top entrants. A system has been put in place to rank all of the final top 3's, and from this will come the Winner, the 1st Runner Up, and the 2nd Runner Up.

Those students who have placed as Winner, 1st Runner Up, and 2nd Runner Up at each grade, will be announced as soon as possible - but please be patient. This also is a new endeavor and will take a bit of time, to collaborate and exchange information, to tally scores, to get findings announced.

At this point, students should be preparing their materials. A question that has come up often relates to students re-submitting the videos used for district auditions. Students certainly can use the same performance videos if they are unable to make new ones, but they are greatly encouraged to re-record. By its very nature, the Badger Competition is asking students to dig a bit deeper in their understanding and study of the pieces that they've chosen.

Some students have prepared videos for other competitions, and have asked if they may use those videos. They certainly may, as long as they are showing, at onset of the performance video, the cover of their music. This is required per agreement with publishers to scan materials.

When students prepare their **videos**, be certain to include:

- *Student Name*
- *The name of the piece*
- *The name of the composer*
- *Show the cover of the music clearly to the camera*
- *Remember this is an audition - dress appropriately*

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Badger Keyboard Competition

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These performance videos will be uploaded to your Public or Unlisted YouTube account, and students will paste the URL of this video into the performance field on the submission site. (*see For Students - Registering Your 2021 Badger Competition Audition with CS Music*)

When students prepare PDF's of their music, take note of the following:

- *PDF's can be NO LARGER THAN 5MB. Check this size prior to submission*
- *Do NOT include a PDF of the cover of your music - it is not necessary*

The CS Music submission window is open from April 29 - May 5. Students should NOT REGISTER EARLY. Submission links to CS Music will be posted on April 29.

Students are highly encouraged to plan on doing the registration and submission process all at the same time within the April 29 - May 5 window. It is easy to find the submission site if you are doing it all at once.

There are documents on the WMTA website, State Badger Competition tab. These docs should answer all questions that you or your students may have regarding this year's Badger. Of special note, you will find:

- ***FAQ ABOUT WMTA 2021 VIRTUAL BADGER COMPETITIONS***
- ***For Students: REGISTERING YOUR 2021 BADGER COMPETITION AUDITION WITH CS MUSIC***

If there are any questions that still need to be addressed, do let me know.

I look forward to a successful and invigorating Badger Competition season. Our students deserve the very best that we can provide for them.

Mary Anne Olvera
maryanneolvera@gmail.com



Badger Vocal Instrumental

Preparations for the Virtual Badger Vocal/Instrumental Competition are in full swing!

Teachers with students participating in the Badger State V/I Competition, be on the lookout for an email from myself following the competition regarding how to connect teachers with their students' trophies.

Converting the WMTA auditions to a virtual event has been a mammoth undertaking. As a teacher though, I am so grateful that my students still had the opportunity to compete, receive feedback and advance to another round. I have been so pleased with the quality of adjudication and the dedication of many WMTA members who've stepped up to help.

The Ovation registration deadline has passed and, at the time of writing this, there are 34 participants in the Badger V/I Competition. This number is down just slightly from 2018 & 2019. This is a good turnout though, given the unique circumstances of this year. However, it would be great to see more students participating in the V/I State Track and advancing to State in future years.

Fellow WMTA Members, please encourage teachers of Voice and Non-Keyboard Instruments to consider the great pedagogical benefits of participating in the WMTA Auditions!!

Submitted,
Opala Bilhorn
Badger Vocal/Instrumental Chair



District Auditions

The 2021 Virtual DISTRICT Auditions are a wrap. It almost seems surreal. What have I been reminded of? Well, Wisconsin Music Teachers are some of the MOST AMAZING people ever! They are second to our really MOST AMAZING STUDENTS. AND, your local District Chairs are willing to go above and beyond the call of duty to serve. Please be sure to thank them as well! And, let's not forget the parents! Wow! That's all I can say! Congratulations to all who submitted auditions AND to those who have qualified to compete at state!

I wish to thank all of the following for all their work:

Mary Anne Olvera – she has put in numerous hours to work with CS Music to create the printed instructions for students and judges, publishers to get virtual permissions, and much more. Thank you, Mary Anne! Thank you for heading up the Badger Auditions with Opala Bilhorn! By the time this comes out, we will be well into the Badger competition.

Abby Patchet – In addition to co-chairing the judge's committee, she adjudicated but she also came to the rescue post-auditions to help out with extra work that was created by technical issues. We are truly blessed to have you as our new Eau Claire District Chair!

Rachel Fritz for all the support through all of District Auditions!

I have been working with 5 committees which include:

1. Judges Committee – Abby Patchet, Kirstin Ihde, Mary Anne Olvera & Opala Bilhorn. This committee is doing all things Judge related. There were about 40 judges for this event!
2. Theory Committee – Sydney Alexander, Annemarie Birschbach (thank you for gathering all the theory correctors info), Mona Grote & Anna Kojovic – There were about 50 Theory Correctors for this event! Thank you to Sydney for creating and executing all things theory this year! Truly amazing!
3. Scheduling Committee – Roberta Grube, Opala Bilhorn, Mary Anne Olvera & Louise Mann – This committee helped all of us stay organized!
4. Publication Committee – Mary Anne Olvera and Rebecca Wilkinson made a great team to handle SO, SO many publication approvals, questions and concerns.
5. Performance Committee – Mary Anne Olvera, Sandra Statz – We worked closely with Katie Andersom from CS Music. It was our first ever Virtual event and it did not go down without tech challenges BUT, Katie has stuck with us through it all.
6. Data Entry Committee – Mary Anne Olvera, Opala Bilhorn, Roberta Grube, Rachel Fritz, Doug Statz – This committee literally came together (and to the rescue) on April 7 to quickly put in close to 1200 performance points into Ovation. It was not a small feat. There were dozens of hours put in.

Good luck to all who progressed to the Badger Competition.

Please remember to renew your MTNA/WMTA/local memberships this summer. All renewals must be recorded by WMTA before October 15, 2021 in order to enter students in the 2022 District Auditions. Please know how excited many are to be back in person next year!

Respectfully submitted, Sandra Statz, NCTM, WMTA State District Chair



Annual Conference



**October 22nd—23rd
Ingleside Hotel
Pewaukee, Wisconsin
(Just west of Milwaukee)**

We are looking forward to having our 2021 WMTA Conference in-person!

It will be wonderful to once again be together to talk about pedagogy, share ideas, encourage one another and listen to music together. Please mark your calendars for October 22-23 at The Ingleside Hotel in Pewaukee (just west of Milwaukee). More information about registration details will be coming to you over the next few months.

Your conference planners have been working on setting up fantastic sessions for October (watch for coming emails!), we are now ready to start taking reservations for Exhibitors at the 2021 Conference. Please encourage any businesses you would like to see in our Exhibit Hall to register. Or if you have your own business which would lend itself well to our conference, please exhibit! Our exhibiting businesses are interested in making connections with teachers like you, so a request from a teacher will be more convincing for them than a message from our office assistant. (As lovely as she is, businesses want to connect with YOU.) You can send possible businesses to the website information for exhibitors [LINK HERE](#) or you could ask our office assistant to send you an email with the necessary documents.

Looking forward to seeing you all in October!

Kayme Henkel, NCTM
VP-Conferences

WMTA Certification



Developing a Professional Teaching Philosophy

Gail A. Heywood, NCTM, State Certification Chair

- I. What is a teaching philosophy?
 - A. A philosophy of teaching statement summarizes:
 1. your concept of teaching and learning
 2. a description of **how** you teach.
 3. an explanation of **why**, **what**, and **whom** you teach.
 - B. The statement may:
 1. demonstrate reflection, perspective, and purpose.
 2. communicate your goals and expectations (attendance, participation, practice, and performance requirements)
 3. explain your choices and preferences (age/level of students; curriculum and materials including repertoire; orientation and long-range overview)
- I. What does it do?
 - A. It relates directly to your studio policy and addresses functional aspects of teaching and business management.
 - B. It anticipates questions from students and parents/families and eliminates many potential misunderstandings.
 - C. It establishes and clarifies the teacher's role in determining:
 1. the audition, interview, and selection process
 2. curriculum determinations
 3. how to address individual interests and/or learning styles
 4. approaches to ear-training, sight-playing, technique, theory, and ensembles
 5. students' eligibility and preparation for auditions and competitions
 6. expectations for practice, memorization, and performance
 7. parental and family involvement
 8. all scheduling decisions
- I. Resources:
 - A. Websites:
<http://ftad.osu.edu/portfolio/philosophy/Philosophy.html>
www.mtnacertification.org/studyguide.htm (also Portfolio Guidelines)

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WMTA Certification

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B. Texts:

1. *Practical Piano Pedagogy—The Definitive Text for Piano Teachers and Pedagogy Students*, Dr. Martha Baker-Jordan, Warner Bros. Publications, 2003
2. *Professional Piano Teaching—A Comprehensive Piano Pedagogy Textbook for Teaching Elementary-Level Students*, Jeanine M. Jacobson, Alfred Publishing, 2006

C. Journals:

1. *American Music Teacher*, Certification Update, October/November 2006; December/January 2006/2007
2. *Keyboard Companion*, Perspectives in Pedagogy, Summer 2006, Vol. 17 No. 2, pp. 30–33, (Rebecca Grooms Johnson with Peter Webster)

As always, if you have any questions while on your journey to become nationally certified, feel free to drop me a line!

Gail A. Heywood, NCTM

Membership Reminders

Have You Moved?

All membership changes, including renewals and address changes, should be made on the MTNA website by updating your member profile. www.MTNA.org

PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT LINE

MTNA provides free counsel for members. Contact the MTNA National Headquarters with any business or pedagogical questions.

(888) 512-5278 -or- professionalsupport@mtna.org

They will gladly assist you in areas such as business plans, contracts, copyright concerns, legal standards, property acquisition, zoning laws, partnerships, grants, acoustic building standards, ASCAP matters, certification, teacher development, group affiliations, music supplies, equipment purchasing, lesson plans, customer fees, health insurance and teacher networking.

Advertise Here

The WMTA Newsletter is published four times a year during the months of February, May, August and December. The deadline for sending submissions is the 1st of the month before the issue publishes. Please contact our central office to learn more about the requirements and opportunities for advertising in this and other WMTA publications.

Full Page Ad (8.5" x 11") \$100

Half Page Ad (8.5 x 5.5") \$50

Quarter Page Ad (4.25" x 5.5") \$25

Eighth Page Ad (4.25" x 2.75") \$15

Member Submissions

All WMTA members may submit relevant announcements or articles to be published in the newsletter. All submissions should be submitted 2 to 4 weeks in advance and must be received by the 15th day of the month prior to issue date or they will not be included and are subject to space availability.

To propose information, please email the central office with potential text and pictures. All text should be concise and edited for content, spelling and grammar. Photos should be clear, high resolution and ready for publication. Please do not send pdf documents. All content is subject to edit and approval before it can be included.



Be sure to find
and "like"
the Wisconsin Music
Teachers Association
on Facebook!



Piano Camp

Dates: Week I: July 11-16, 2021 with Dr. Ivan Konev
Week II: July 25-30, 2021 with Dr. Nicholas Phillips
Completing Grades 6-12

Take your piano-playing skills to the next level! Pianists will receive individualized and class instruction daily, with a focus on both solo and collaborative playing. In addition to lessons, classes will examine topics such as piano technique, sight-reading, accompaniment, efficient practice methods, keyboard theory, and piano literature. Each pianist will have the opportunity to perform solo pieces and chamber music.



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– PIANO CAMP STUDENT



HIGH SCHOOL PIANO *Scholarship Competition*

Details

JANUARY 27, 2022

For students grades 9-12

Register by January 12, 2022

- Receive Detailed Feedback
- Network with other Musicians
- Win Scholarships and Awards
- Limited Openings!

visit mbu.edu/pianocompetition
for more details and registration

