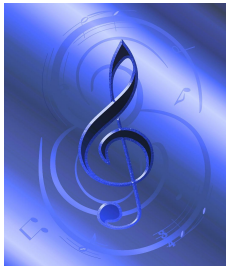


December 2022



Wisconsin Music Teachers Association

State Affiliate of Music Teachers National Association

Letter from the President

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I don't have an especially thoughtful president's message for you. It's currently eight days after the newsletter deadline due to the recent passing of my mother-in-law, and at this writing, my WMTA email inbox alone has 467 unread/unresponded messages. Not only am I burning the candle at both ends this semester, I seem to be gripping a stick of dynamite. As the daughter of a dairy farmer, I wasn't raised to make excuses or complain—so I'll just ask for your forgiveness (does anyone read the president's message anyway? wink-wink) and promise to be all caught up again soon.

In this season of thanksgiving, love, and celebration, I would especially like to thank our leaders and our members for all they do in service to WMTA. The time you are willing to give is valuable, and we exist and progress because of you. Thank you for all you do.

**Life is not a brief candle.
It is a splendid torch
that must be made to burn
as brightly as possible
before it is handed on
to the next generation.
-George Bernard Shaw**

Yours sincerely,

Michelle "Mickey" Lytle, NCTM
President, Wisconsin Music Teachers Association



WMTA 2022 Conference Wrap Up

by **Hector Landa**

We had a successful conference this October with some amazing speakers. Please check out our website [here](#) to see the speaker's topics. Their handouts are available online in their links. We encourage you to check them out as you may benefit as well, even if you weren't there.

Also, check out our advertisers that have helped make this event possible.

Excited for 2023 Conference

We look forward to seeing you next year in La Crosse on October 19-21, 2023. We've already got several things available on our website so check out the details.

Interested in being part of the conference next year? [Submit a Proposal Here](#)

Membership Report

by **Justin Krueger, NCTM**

Our current membership sits at 398 members (slightly down from previous years). As we approach the holiday season, the idea of giving is on the forefront of many of our minds.

One of the greatest gifts for me, as a graduate student at Wichita State University, was my professor of piano pedagogy, Dr. Sylvia Coats. She helped the graduate students in piano, not only navigate our degree program, but also provide the opportunities for connecting musically- which obviously included MTNA. We all know that we have met wonderful colleagues, heard world-class presentations, and have discovered engaging resources for our studios. Take a moment during these winter months and sit down with a colleague at a local coffee shop. Talk with them about MTNA. Invite them to your next meeting/program (allow them to skip the business part perhaps).

The best way we can let others know about our organization is not through fancy brochures and targeted social media ad campaigns. With such wonderful colleagues around the state, we can continue to share with others why our organization is such a great way to connect with one another, because as they say, "the proof is in the pudding." So this holiday season, I am adding to my gratitude list, my WMTA family - each of you. Let's continue to connect, support one another, and share opportunities with those we know as well as those we don't.

Have a wonderful rest of 2022!



2022 MTNA Foundation Fellow Thank you

By: **Catherine Walby, NCTM**

Dear WMTA Members,

Thank you so much for nominating me for the 2022 MTNA Foundation Fellow from Wisconsin. And also for financial support of the Fellow. I believe in the program the foundation supports and am happy WMTA chooses to be a part of that most years.

I thoroughly enjoy being a part of WMTA. It continues to be a big part of my professional life as I value the many friendships that have arisen as well. Thank you for everything that each of you have done to make WMTA a relevant association for our members.


With thanks,

Catherine Walby, NCTM

Nicholas Phillips, NCTM, 2023 Foundation Fellow

by **Shannon Whaples, NCTM**

WMTA was pleased to announce Dr. Nicholas Phillips, NCTM, as our 2023 foundation fellow at our annual state conference in Superior. We are currently raising funds for sponsoring him. If you would like to give individually you may use the link <https://www.mtnafoundation.org/contribute/contribute-now/> and please make sure to put "Nick Phillips–Wisconsin" in the Fellow box. The conference donations amounted to \$350.00. \$1500 is the amount WMTA needs to fully fund a Fellow. The funds by members should be given by the end of the year. The fellows are recognized at the Gala at the national conference in Reno. MTNA uses these funds to help fund various projects like Program grants, teacher enrichment grants, collegiate travel grants and local engagement grants. Funds given to the fellow really can make it back into your local community by applying for a MTNA grant.



2022 Local Association Member of the Year

By: **Catherine Walby, NCTM**

Please join me and WMTA in congratulating our local association members of the year! Awardees represent many of our local associations around the state. Each member has made and continues to make an impact on their fellow members. Thank you each for bringing your skill, expertise, time and passion to our association. We couldn't do what we do without you.

Chippewa Valley MTA: Abby Patchet

CVMTA would like to recognize Abby Patchet as the 2022 Member of the Year. Abby grew up in Eau Claire taking part in WMTA Auditions, so we rejoiced to welcome her back as a teacher, member, and colleague. She accepted the role of Auditions chair in 2020 and has helped us survive the many hurdles and challenges that the last 3 years have brought us. Thank you Abby for all of your effort and good work!

Fox Valley MTA: Stacey Kraus, NCTM


FVMTA is happy to honor Stacey Kraus as our member of the year. She led us through covid-era meetings with grace and consistency, making sure that we stayed connected as a local association. She brings energy and creativity to everything she does in FVMTA and beyond. Stacey has been teaching and accompanying for 20 years. While in college, she received a scholarship to join WMTA. She currently serves as the president of the Fox Valley Music Teachers Association, in addition to serving on the state board as Collaborative Performance Forum chair. Stacey became nationally certified in 2022. She teaches privately at St. Paul Lutheran Elementary School and Fox Valley Lutheran High School in Appleton. She is an active accompanist and church musician and loves collaborating with her daughters who play violin and cello.

Madison Area Music Educators: Emily Schultz, NCTM

MAME unanimously nominates Emily Schultz as our member of the year. Emily has dedicated many years to making Madison district auditions a success. She has worked tirelessly to stay on top of the compositions portion of Ovation, gently correcting teachers as they enter repertoire into the database. She has been an outstanding contributor to the lives of Madison area music educators. Her commitment to her students is strong and she advocates for her students in many ways. MAME supports Emily with great enthusiasm and deep appreciation for her contributions to our community.

Michibago MTA: Louise Mann, NCTM

From the moment Louise Mann became a member of our group, she let us know she was willing to help our association thrive!

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She has been President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Festival Chair, and Auditions Chair. Her smile has been the welcoming face at the entrance to the Weill Center, when we have our Young Musical Stars Concert. She enjoys being a mentor to several new teachers who joined our group.

She has reminded us that we are not just teachers, but promoters of professional growth and fraternity. Urging us to provide high standards in music, while giving opportunities for students and teachers to grow in knowledge and skill.

With her computer skills, she helped us move into the 21st century by encouraging us to use the computer for tracking income and expenses. Plus she, with the help of a few others, made registration for our local events easier by putting all forms and information available on line.

Louise has been such a great asset to our association in so many ways. We are grateful that WMTA has made it possible for us to recognize her with this Member of the Year Award.

Oshkosh Area MTA: Annemarie Birschbach

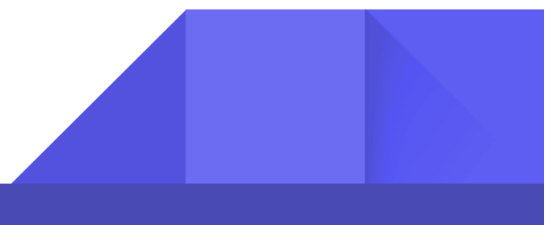
OAMTA nominates Annemarie as member of the year. Annemarie is a very active member of our group who is always willing to volunteer her time when it is needed. She agreed to serve as acting president this year after years of serving as vice president and as co-chair of district auditions. As co-chair, she oversees logistics such as making room assignments, handling online theory tests, and keeping track of all awards, among many other things. In addition, she coordinates OAMTA recitals four times per year, including communicating with venue administrators and collecting program information from all the teachers. In short, she is a wonderful colleague!

Annemarie, an Oshkosh native, studied piano with Mary Pingry and violin with Patricia Pensis in her youth. She was involved in choir, musicals, jazz band, and orchestra in high school. Following her graduation, she attended UW-Steven Point, where she earned a degree in Music Education with a choral emphasis. She has been teaching piano in Oshkosh since 1995 and currently has a studio of 34 students. Some of her favorite aspects of teaching include playing games with students, holding driveway recitals, and working on the music of Robert Vandall with her students. When she is not teaching, she enjoys time with her two daughters, puzzles, reading, and Wisconsin sports teams.

Rock River MTA: Julie Hildebrandt

Julie Hildebrandt is Rock River MTA's member of the year. I have been the president for more than 10 years while teaching at Lakeside Lutheran High School and St. Paul's Lutheran Grade School, both in Lake Mills, and at home. It is my joy working with students from Kindergarten through Seniors to bring out their artistic qualities or just learn to have a love for music. I appreciate Rock River nominating me for their member of the year. Thank you.

Superior Area MTA: Buffy Luostari



SAMTA nominates Buffy Luostari as our member of the year. Buffy is a vital member to SAMTA. She is always willing to head up workshops for area students, present an on-line webinar sponsored by our student chapter, judge auditions, help with student recital receptions, and behind the scenes helper with the state convention.

Buffy is the music teacher for the Iron River Elementary School. She also volunteers as the accompanist for the School District of Maple concerts and solo/ensemble entries.

Congratulations Buffy!

Be a Judge: WMTA NEEDS YOU!!

One of the most valuable and motivating services WMTA affords to our students is the adjudication process through District Auditions, Regional Competitions, and State Keyboard Competition. Adjudication provides nurturing, supportive critique, while offering recommendation for continued musical growth.

In order for WMTA to retain a strong and consistent pool of adjudicators, we are in need of interested and capable teachers.

If you have had:

- At least 5 years of teaching experience and
- Are interested in working with students and
- Interested in making a positive impact on their development

Sign up to be an adjudicator for WMTA auditions [click here](#).

Our students will thank you for it!



Local Association FVMTA News

by **Barbara Froelich**

Several members of FVMTA have gathered to read and review books related to the profession of music teaching in the past two years. All participants agreed to the most recent selection, “Upbeat! Mindset, Mindfulness and Leadership in Music Education and Beyond” by Lawrence Professor Matthew Arau is a philosophy that can precipitate positive changes in teaching and in everyday living as well.

The impact of reading/reviewing the book motivated the members to engage Dr. Arau as a recent program presenter for FVMTA and invited members of OAMTA (Oshkosh Area Music Teachers Association) to join. Dr. Arau is a dynamic clinician, having presented and guest-conducted on four continents and 25 U.S. states. He is an Associate Professor of Music and the Chair of the Music Education Department and Symphonic Band Conductor at the Lawrence University Conservatory of Music in Appleton.


FVMT Member Spotlight: Barbara Erickson

Shawano Piano teacher, member of FVMT

Barbara Erickson, piano teacher in Shawano, recently taught her students about the life and works of a living composer, Wisconsin’s Joyce Grill. Erickson’s goal was to have her students present a recital solely featuring works by Grill. To her surprise, Grill went “one better!” After responding by phone to questions about her life, Grill offered to travel to Shawano (from the Western part of the state!) for the event!

Twenty students had the delightful experience of playing Grill’s pieces with her as an honored guest, concluding with group photographs of the twenty students, their teacher and the “living” composer!

Erickson travels a bit herself as a member (and treasurer) of the Fox Valley Music Teachers Association, attending monthly meetings and other events in the Appleton area.



Local Association: SCVMTA NEWS

by **Mary Anne Overa, NCTM**

On Sept 15 - 16, 2023, St. Croix Valley Music Teachers Association has the privilege of hosting Dr. Kevin Olson, Utah State University, for a series of teacher and student workshops, and a premier presentation of his newly commissioned work. Dr. Olson has been commissioned by SCVMTA to write a suite of pieces commemorating Deanna Roen, whom many of you know and have worked with. He will also be offering teacher and student workshops focusing on the creative process of composition.

“CELEBRATING COMPOSITION with Dr. Kevin Olson” is an opportunity for teachers and students to pull the curtain back on the process of composition, and to engage with and learn the tools and strategies for creative composition.

While all of the details are still being fine tuned and subject to some change, a rough outline of his time with us is as follows:

Friday, September 15, 2023 -


- 4:00-6:00 - Teacher day focused on composition, all of its variables, and methods for teaching the processes
- 6:00-7:00 - Catered meal for all participants, a wonderful community opportunity and chance to engage with WMTA members
- 7:00 - Presentation of newly commissioned pieces honoring Deanna, performed by Dr. Olson

Saturday, September 16, 2023

- 10:00 - noon - Student day, workshops on composition and performance of Kevin Olson works by students.
- 12:00 - 1:00 - lunch
- 1:00 - 3:00 - More student workshops, Q/A regarding the process of composition.

This will be an opportunity for students to play their own compositions, and get valuable feedback and coaching. This could also be an opportunity for students to perform Kevin Olson's pieces, and to quiz the composer on why he chose particular devices in the piece. We envision this day as being very interactive with students, helping them to understand the creative energies and the process which to some may be a bit of a mystery.

Dr. Kevin Olson is a very active pianist and composer and has written pieces that our students love to play, and we as teachers love to work with. He directs the piano program at Utah State University, and we are thrilled to have him working with us. We invite all WMTA members to take part in these workshops, and to celebrate Deanna Roen in the premier presentation of these newly composed pieces. Contact Mary Anne Olvera, maryanneolvera@gmail.com, with any questions.



WMTA District Audition News

By: **Sandra Statz, NCTM** WMTA State District Chair

Conference 2022 was amazing. I not only loved the BEAUTIFUL trip to Superior with all the amazing fall colors but I also loved seeing so many WMTA Teachers again!


A LOT of work has been done to update the www.wisconsinmusicteachers.com website. There are more links available to find what you are looking for better. Please visit the website to see all the updates. However, I do want to point out the incredible flow charts that are now available. Check them out!

The Spring 2023 District Auditions will be held IN PERSON. There will not be a Virtual audition process offered. The administration of theory exams will vary from District to District so be sure to read the emails from your amazing District Chair leaders! Some theory exams will be administered in person while others will be online. Each student should plan to take the theory exam in the same district as their performance.

For all your questions, please reach out to your local District Chairs. They are prepared to help you succeed in the upcoming auditions. They are your first step to obtaining information regarding your district's auditions.

As a reminder, we no longer have requirements to use certain "historical periods" across the board. Students auditioning to compete at State (Badger) must choose one piece from the Baroque/Classical list of composers. Please refer to the WMTA website for specific rules. Our New Database is called "Cadence". More info will be coming from your District Chairs...please watch for their emails and reach out to them if you have not received an email this year.

You will not be choosing your pieces from a "database". You will have a place on the application to write in the title of the pieces for your students. It is very important that you write in the name as it appears on the music that will be used to avoid disqualification. There is a rule in place regarding Downloaded music. WMTA has requirements for using downloaded music. While we still want to really encourage teachers/students to PURCHASE printed music for students to use in auditions, we also want to support LEGALLY downloaded music that follows the US Copyright Laws.



District Auditions Continued:

Therefore, we will be having two items in place:

1. Our rules state that by entering the auditions/competitions the students agree that they are following the copyright laws. (We have provided a link to a one page summary of the copyright laws.)

AND

2. The student/parents will fill out and sign the [Copyright Representation and Indemnification Agreement Form](#), stating that the music they are using does in fact follow the US Copyright laws. This statement must be printed and present with the music when the music is given to the judge at the competition. There will be no exceptions to this because WMTA cannot be liable for a Copyright infringement by a teacher/student. If you have questions about any specific music please email me at: Sandra.statz2@gmail.com

Aural Theory testing: As a reminder, ALL students will receive ONLY TWO hearings of the Aural Theory questions during the Audition Theory testing. This has always been the rule, therefore, we want to emphasize for our newer teachers that this may take some training on your part. FYI, intervals are played melodically going up, then down, then together...that's one hearing. If you do have questions about how the testing is done, contact your local District Chairs.

All applications must be completed by the Application Due Date for YOUR home district. There will be NO applications accepted late! Please also have your application fees turned in by your district's due date. If you do have a student entering out of district you MUST first contact YOUR HOME District Chair so they can help facilitate any post auditions awards. Then, get permission from the out of district District Chairperson as soon as possible but absolutely prior to the application due date and follow all deadlines for that district for that student. Theory Study guides: Both the Comprehensive Study Sheet AND individual study sheets are available on the WMTA website for your use/choice.

If you missed the Oct 15 membership renewal deadline and are NOT a new teacher, to enter students in the 2023 auditions you must submit your \$150 late fee, made out to WMTA, to me. Contact me for my address. New members are allowed to enter students for auditions without paying the late fee.

Great resources to learn more:

1. www.wisconsinmusicteachers.com
2. The Newsletters via the link on the [WMTA website](#)
3. Your [Local District Chair](#)
4. Email Sandra Statz at: sandra.statz2@gmail.com



2023 State Vocal/Instrumental Competition

by **Opala Bilhorn, NCTM** WMTA State Vocal/Instrumental/Ensemble Chairperson

I am pleased to announce the addition of a State Ensemble Track to the WMTA Auditions! Students will be able to participate in the Ensemble Track in the 2023 auditions. There are many different opportunities for a variety of ensembles; please see the [website](#) for all the specific details. Or contact myself (opalas.music.studio@gmail.com) for more information. State Vocal/Instrumental/Ensemble will be held at UW-Oshkosh on Saturday, May 13, 2023. The registration deadline for State Vocal/Instrumental/Ensemble is April 5, 2023. A registration form and fees must be postmarked and mailed to:

Opala Bilhorn, 508 Campus St. Suite 3, Milton, WI 53563

For teachers interested in learning more about the State V/I/E Track and successfully navigating the WMTA Auditions in general, consider attending the joint session Sandra Statz and myself will be presenting at the WMTA Conference in October. Can't wait to see you there!

UPCOMING COMPETITION EVENTS

by **Mary Anne Olvera, NCTM** WMTA Regional and State Keyboard Chairperson

2023 Upcoming Regional Events: Mark you Calendars

South Regional Keyboard Competition will be held: Sunday, May 7, 2023 at the Wisconsin Conservatory of Music. Registrations will be due on Wednesday April 5.

North East Regional Keyboard Competition - ADULTS and DUETS will be held on Saturday, May 13 at UW-Oshkosh. Registrations will be due on Wednesday, April 5

North West Regional Keyboard Competition will be held on Saturday, May 13 at UW-LaCrosse. Registrations will be due on Wednesday, April 5.

Any questions regarding Regional events, contact: maryanneolvera@gmail.com



WMTA State Keyboard Competition 2023

Whereas the WMTA Regional Keyboard Competitions (formerly Badger) designate divisional/grade level winners in each of our 3 Regions, this competition allows those winners to compete with each other, and determine a true state winner at each division/grade level.

If the Winner of any grade level is not available or does not want to advance, the opportunity will be given to the Runner Up at the grade level, in that Region. If neither will participate, there is a default at that division/grade level, in that Region. This will look quite different from our District events, and our Regional Competitions:

ELIGIBILITY: WINNING participant in each division, grades 7-12, at each of the Regional Keyboard Competitions: South, North East, North West

TOTAL NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS: 18 (6 divisions, 3 regions)

WHEN: Saturday, May 20, 2023

WHERE: UW - Stevens Point


REGISTRATION FEE: \$40, payable to WMTA, sent to Mary Anne Olvera, 664 Louise Lane, Hudson, WI 54016

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Tuesday, May 16 This will look quite different from our District events, and our Regional Competitions:

ON COMPETITION DAY:

All performances will be held in the Recital Hall with a defined schedule. Three judges will listen to all entrants at each division at the same time and Recital Hall performances will be open to the general public, with admission fees. Admission fees are: Adults (\$10), Non-performing students (\$5), and for Age 5 and under (free). A 15-minute deliberation time immediately follows the last entrant at each division/grade level, and all 3 judges collaborate to determine the winner at that division.

All Winners for all divisions/grade levels (there will be no Runner Up placements) will be announced at



Awards Presentation at the end of the day.

Points = 15 for Winner plus Winners Trophy, 10 for participants, and all receive Certificates

OTHER IMPORTANT ITEMS:

In the interest of equity, all performances will be held to a strict 15 minute time limit. There will be no option to ask for a time extension. To maintain the determined schedule, judges will cut students off if they exceed time limits. It will be incumbent on teachers to choose repertoire that is in line with these requirements, and/or prepare students to be cut off if their program exceeds 15 min.

The turnaround time between Regional Competitions and State Keyboard Competition is very short. It may be best practice to tell students to consider whether they would want to advance to State, if they had the opportunity, right in the beginning of preparations.

Any questions regarding WMTA State Keyboard Competition, contact: Mary Anne Olvera at maryanneolvera@gmail.com.

2023 REGIONAL (formerly Badger) KEYBOARD COMPETITION DATES AND VENUES

South - Regional (formerly Badger) Keyboard Competition

Sunday, May 7, 2023

Wisconsin Conservatory of Music
1584 N. Prospect Ave.

NE - Regional (formerly Badger) Keyboard Competition

Saturday, May 13, 2023


University of Wisconsin - Oshkosh
1001 Elmwood Ave, Oshkosh, WI

THIS IS ALSO THE STATE EVENT FOR ADULTS, KEYBOARD DUETS

NW - Regional (formerly Badger) Keyboard Competition

Saturday, May 13, 2023

University of Wisconsin - La Crosse
234 Lowe Center for the Arts, LaCrosse, WI

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Registration Deadline: Wednesday April 5, 2023
Registration fees = \$30, payment made to WMTA for each student entered, \$30 duets,

Mail Registration Fee and Fee Summary to:

Mary Anne Olvera
664 Louise Lane
Hudson, WI 54016

WMTA TRUE STATE KEYBOARD COMPETITION

Saturday, May 20, 2023
University of Stevens Point, WI, Noel Fine Arts Center
1800 Portage St., Stevens Point, WI

Registration Deadline Tuesday, May 16, 2023

Registration fee = \$40, payable to WMTA

Mail Registration Fee and Fee Summary to:
Mary Anne Olvera, 664 Louise Lane, Hudson, WI 54016

FAQ's ABOUT THE NEW COMPETITION

• **Will this be like a large recital, where we get to see all the finalists?**


Yes, this competition is unlike any of the other events. All performances are on the recital hall stage. Admission (day passes) will be charged @ \$10 adult, \$5 non performing student, under 5 yrs, free.

• **Who is eligible to participate?**

This competition is open to the grade 7-12 Regional winners @ S, NE, NW, totaling 18 participants

• **What happens if the Regional Winner doesn't want to/can't participate?**

If this occurs at any region, the opportunity to perform falls to the Runner-Up at that grade level. If the Runner-Up can't participate, or there was no designated Runner Up, there is a default at the grade level in that Region.



- **Will there be only one judge?**

There will be 3 judges adjudicating the same event at the same time for all grade levels. After the last grade level winner has performed, there is a 15 min. deliberation time built in for the judges to determine that grade level winner.

- **What does the schedule look like?**

The day's schedule is already determined, with a start time at 8:00, 15 min. for each participant, 15 deliberations, then turnover to the next grade level. Each Region will be rotated for a starting position in the next grade level. This continues throughout the day, with an awards ceremony at 3:45.

- **Are students and their families required to stay for the whole day?**

Students are not required to stay for the whole day, but all are strongly encouraged to attend as many performances as they can. These are students playing at the peak of their ability, and this is not only highly motivating for students, but highly instructive.

- **What will the judges be listening for at this level of competition?**

Every student performing has already distinguished themselves as winners in their Regional competitions. They are called to demonstrate a higher degree of mastery of this repertoire. They need to come to this with fresh ears.


Students will be evaluated on the preparedness and mastery of their pieces, not the difficulty and not the length.

Aside from precise notes and rhythms, some examples of what judges listen for are beautiful phrasing and beautiful musical statements, expressive creative dynamics, beautiful tone color, rubato well performed where needed, balanced and creative voicing, artful articulation as noted in the score.

This is a competition in search of the masterful musician, the student that understands that flawless technique is not the end game, but a tool to deliver beautiful music making.

- **Should teachers make cuts to the score if their music exceeds 15 minutes?**

No, the adjudicator will respectfully cut the student off, but teachers can prep students for a cut-off if their program exceeds 15 minutes.



- **If students are cut off, can you still win if the judges have not heard all three pieces in their entirety?**

Yes, judges can certainly determine a winner even though all repertoire may not have been heard to completion. A winning performance is not dependent on the length of the piece, nor its difficulty. Students are evaluated on the preparedness and mastery of their pieces, not the difficulty and not the length.

- **It seems like 15 min. is too short, especially for some pieces. Why can't students prepare programs that go over 15 min.?**

The 15 minutes time limit is in place to create equity for every single student that is playing. It is not meant to discourage students from learning larger repertoire, especially those students preparing college entrance auditions. But if a student's program does exceed 15 minutes, simply prepare them for the probability that they will be respectfully cut off. *(And parents and students are reminded that most college entrance auditions are capped at 10 min.)*

- **If the Winner or the Runner Up do not perform for that grade, then is the Winner from the Regionals still the Winner of the state?**

The grade level winner at Regionals was never the winner of the state. They were the winner of that region of the state only, either NE, NW, or S, only that third. That is what this new True State competition is all about - the opportunity for regional winners at grade level to meet the other regional winners and compete, thereby determining one true winner at grade level in the state. The Regional/Badger competitions did not do this. And that's what makes this exciting!

- **When will Winners and awards be announced?**

After all participants have performed, after the last participant at grade 12 and deliberations are complete, the winners will be announced. They are not announced at the end of each grade level.

We will be posting to the WMTA Facebook page. *If there are any additional questions, contact me, Mary Anne Olvera, maryanneolvera@gmail.com, and I'm happy to help.*



2023 WMTA Audition Dates and Deadlines and Chairperson Contacts

DISTRICT	SITE	AUDITIONS DATE	ENTRY DEADLINE
Appleton	Lawrence University	3/18/2023	2/18/2023
Eau Claire	UW-Eau Claire	4/1/2023	3/3/2023
Kenosha	UW-Parkside	4/1/2023	3/3/2023
La Crosse	Viterbo University	TBA	TBA
Madison	UW-Mead Witter School of Music	3/12/2023	2/10/2023
Merrill	Our Savior's Lutheran	3/4/2023	2/4/2023
Oshkosh	UW-Oshkosh	3/11/2023	2/17/2023
River Falls	UW-River Falls	3/18/2023	2/15/2023
Sheboygan, West Bend	Lakeland University	3/11/2023	2/11/2023
Stevens Point	UW-Stevens Point	3/18/2023	2/25/2023
Superior	UW-Superior	3/5/2023	2/6/2023
Milwaukee	UW-Milwaukee	3/4/2023	2/4/2023
Wausau	Wausau Conservatory	3/11/2023	2/24/2023
Whitewater	UW-Whitewater	3/25/2023	2/25/2023
DISTRICT	CHAIRPERSON(S)	EMAIL	PHONE
STATE CHAIRPERSON	Sandra Statz	sandra.statz2@gmail.com	715-379-0418
Appleton	Catherine Walby	catherine.walby@lawrence.edu	920-832-7448
Eau Claire	Abby Patchet	abbypatchet@gmail.com	715-864-5298
Kenosha	Flora Lim	floralim_piano@yahoo.com	262-945-3934
	Lynn Orlando	LMOH@yahoo.com	715-630-7035
La Crosse	Reene Sampson	reene.ann.sampson@gmail.com	(608) 792-6697
Madison	John Scoville	johnharrisonscoville@gmail.com	913-488-1693
	Denise Taylor	dtaylorpiano@gmail.com	608-438-2754
Merrill	Katie Livingston	katzpianostudio@msn.com	715-218-6894/715-536-4054
	Carolyn O'Brien	cobrienpiano@gmail.com	715-966-2592
Oshkosh	Dr. Kirstin Ihde	ihdek@uwosh.edu	319-830-3264 (Kirstin)

	Annemarie Birschbach	ajbach@att.net	920-379-1968 (Annemarie)
River Falls	Teresa Lindahl	btbjgf@gmail.com	715-690-4282
Sheboygan, West Bend	Louise Mann Beverly Mark	louisemannpiano@gmail.com	920-912-2106 (Louise)
		bevbeemark@gmail.com	920-242-7318 (Beverly)
Stevens Point	Gail Heywood	gailheywood0@gmail.com	715-459-8180
Superior	Roberta Grube	grube4@centurytel.net	715-364-2537 or 218-349-6419
Waukesha, Milwaukee	Jennifer Kottke	jkottke216@gmail.com	262-622-5501
Wausau	Mona Grote	monagrote@yahoo.com	715-432-1728
Whitewater	Bethany Hartlaub	bjoyful90@outlook.com	262-215-5495

WMTA Auditions Rates

Effective 2023 Audition Season revised 11/22/22

Item	2023 Rate
District Auditions are THE FIRST Auditions that ALL students participate in.	
District Keyboard & District V/I/E	
D2 Solo or Duet (two pieces)	\$ 25.00
D2-NM (piano solo)	\$ 25.00
D3	\$ 30.00
Regional/State Piano Solo	\$ 30.00
State Duet Keyboard and V/I/E: (three pieces)	\$ 30.00
Ensemble: 3-5 student performers	\$ 35.00
Ensemble: 6-10 student performers	\$ 45.00
After District Auditions, Students who qualify progress to Regional Piano & State V/I/E auditions.	
Regional Piano & State V/I/E/Duet & State Adult Division	
Solo	\$ 30.00
Duet: Keyboard and V/I/E: (3 pieces)	\$ 30.00
Ensemble: 3-5 performers	\$ 40.00
Ensemble: 6-10 performers	\$ 50.00
The 18 Regional Piano Winners will be invited to compete at the TRUE STATE Competition.	
True State Piano	
Entry fee per student	\$ 40.00
Audience day pass: Adult	\$ 10.00
Audience day pass: Student	\$ 5.00
Audience day pass: Age 5 and under	free
WMTA Young Composers Competition	
Entry Fee	\$ 35.00
WI MTNA Competitions	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • entry fee: no changes are made at state level 	

Obituaries

by **Julie Reuss**

It is with great sadness that I announce the passing away of Marilyn White Lowe, the author of the Music Moves for Piano series that I use in the Reuss Music Studio. Some of you might remember her from the piano teacher workshop I organized here in Waukesha where she asked for some students to demonstrate with to show how Music Learning Theory and Music Moves for Piano worked together and several of you volunteered!

I have benefitted in so many ways by knowing Marilyn. She was always available to explain, give encouragement, provide demonstrations, and just be a kind human being. The courses I took with her and conversations will be memories I cherish. I am a better musician and teacher because of her and will miss her very much!

She was beloved by many members and a regular fixture at teacher's conventions, both in the US and internationally. She studied piano at Indiana University with Pressler. She spent a summer in France studying with Nadia Boulanger and Poulenc, and almost completed a doctorate in music theory.

Nonetheless, she was unsatisfied with her teaching. While her students read music well and played nicely, they were incapable of playing by ear and improvising. In the 90s she attended Dr. Edwin Gordon's lectures on musical aptitude and audiation. It was exactly what she had been searching for.

The result was "Music Moves for piano." A massive piano curriculum totaling several thousand pages. In a vast departure from other methods, it placed audiation (the ability to "think" music) at the center of the learning experience.

In the pedagogy community, Marilyn was a font of information. Always eager to answer questions, educate, send musical gifts in the mail, and offer an encouraging word. She loved going to the theater and concerts and had dozens of children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren.

Up until her illness this spring, she traveled extensively. She had friends all over the US and the world. She was kind, generous, adventurous, and had a matter-of-fact Midwestern way about her. She will be missed.



FVMTA Young Artist Festival

by: **Barbara Froelich, NCTM**

barbara.froelich55@gmail.com





Calling NE Wisconsin music students and teachers! (*Students or students of teachers who reside in the counties of: Brown, Calumet, Fond du Lac, Manitowoc, Outagamie, Shawano, Waupaca or Winnebago.)

Join Fox Valley Music Teachers Association in celebrating the 22nd Anniversary of the annual FVMTA Young Artist Festival slated for Saturday, February 11, 2023, at Lawrence Conservatory of Music, Lawrence University, Appleton, WI!

The Festival is an educational day composed of music competitions (piano concertos, strings, voice, woodwinds/brass, ensembles), a clinic for students in grades 6-12, performances of winners and the awarding of over \$1,000 in cash prizes at the culminating Winners Recital! See fvmta.org for details, registration and a link to the 2022 winners/literature/virtual recital.



Aids for you to use

The Leadership of WMTA

For a list of WMTA Leadership, please click here: [Leadership](#)

For a list of your Local Association Presidents, click here: [Local Associations](#)

Professional Assistance Line

MTNA understands the ever-changing demands that music teachers face. To meet those needs, a vast collection of business resources has been developed by the association. Content will continue to be added and updated to ensure MTNA members have access to resources necessary to grow thriving studios and portfolio careers. If you have any questions regarding the Business Resources section or would like to provide feedback, [click here](#) or contact the MTNA National Headquarters at (888) 512-5278 or mtnanet@mtna.org.


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

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 wisconsinmta@gmail.com 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.



Advertise With us

WMTA is a 501(c)3 nonprofit as state affiliate of Music Teachers National Association (MTNA). Advertising with Wisconsin Music Teachers Association will help you reach the 450+ members who are largely private music teachers, college and university instructors, and college student members across Wisconsin.

Advertising must be paid for prior to the 15th of the newsletter publication date. If you have questions or if you need an invoice, please email wisconsinmta@gmail.com.

Conference Advertising (Exhibitor) Many options exist to advertise at our conference. Please see the website for details.

Newsletter Advertising Only Options

WMTA produces a newsletter in February, May, August, and December. If you would like to submit an advertisement, an electronic submission and payment are due by the 15th of the month prior. (January 15, April 15, July 15, and November 15) [More information here](#)

- Multi-newsletter advertising: 4 ads in the consecutive February, May, August, and December Newsletters, paid in full
 - Full Page: \$300
 - Half Page: \$150
- One-time Quarterly Newsletter full page color ad- \$100
- One-time Quarterly Newsletter half page color ad- \$50
- One-time use of our postal mailing list -\$75
- One-time ad, sent via email by WMTA on your behalf to entire membership- \$75
- If you wish to advertise, use [this link](#).

Donate to MTNA

When you make a contribution to the MTNA Foundation Fund, you are helping us work for a more musical tomorrow through programs that nurture the creation, performance, study and teaching of music. Young students are recognized for their pursuit of excellence in performance and composition through the MTNA Student Competitions. The foundation fund also supports local associations by awarding grants from a national level. Click [here](#).

