



WMTA Annual Business Meeting

Meeting Minutes (approved 10/21/23)

Saturday, October 15, 2022

Barkers Island Inn, Superior WI

- I. Call to Order/Welcome: Call to order at 12:43pm
- II. Adoption of Agenda: no objections; agenda was adopted
- III. Approval of Minutes: Rachel Fritz moved, Catherine Walby seconded, approval by consensus
- IV. Reports of Officers

a. President

Mickey Lytle, NCTM

New appointments:

- Teacher Award of Excellence Chair (outgoing chair Drew Donica; incoming chair Sandra Statz, NCTM)
- WMTA Student Composition Chair (outgoing chair Sam Ecoff resigned effective 9/12/22; incoming Amber Bruns, NCTM)

Vacancies:

- NCTM Certification Chair (effective 8/1/22; the position is currently open)
- District Auditions State Chair (Sandra Statz is resigning effective 6/1/23; the position is currently open)

Much time has been spent assisting Hector and Heather with the conference planning committee, as they were both very new to all aspects of conference planning.

Rachel Fritz and I continued to have bi-weekly meeting with Slingshot throughout the summer and fall on the WMTA database.

The September MTNA leadership summit in Cincinnati was very informative and I enjoyed the opportunity to meet dozens of new colleagues; I recapped what I learned to WMTA executive board members.

b. Immediate Past President

Rachel Fritz

WMTA continues to work with Slingshot on the District Auditions database. There will be a demonstration of the database in the District Chairs meeting at the conference. Cadence is the name of the new database, which will replace the previous WMTA database.

Work continues on finding a company for background checks. Since WMTA is entering a lot of university sites, the background check system needs to be updated. Rachel recommended working with BIB, and also recommended performing new checks every three years. This will be covered in Old Business.

c. 1st VP-Conference

Hector Landa

Thanks to Mickey Lytle, Heather Reeder, Sydney Alexander, Roberta Grube, and Buffy Luostari for all their help planning and fine-tuning many aspects of this year's conference.

The 2023 State Conference will take place at the Radisson Hotel in La Crosse, WI on October 19-22. A contract was signed on July 30, 2022.

As a first year VP of Conference, I have been working closely with the President to evaluate a list of aspects of the planning of future conferences that may need to be revised. These include but not limited to: considering updating conference registration fees, the feasibility of presenting a MTNA Competitions Winners' Recital during the conference, and developing a clearer policy about compensation of conference presenters.

d. 2nd VP-Membership

Justin Krueger, NCTM

The district database will be worked on and hopefully ready just after the conference. I was waiting as I believe that folks had until October to register for eligibility for auditions.

e. Treasurer

Sydney Alexander

*these numbers are pre-conference. Sydney reported that after entering conference expenses, the numbers remained in the black.

Wisconsin Music Teachers Association

Treasurer Report – October 2022

Account Balances: Sep 30, 2022	
Checking	14,790
Money Market	19,657
Square	2,755
CD 2597 (3.92%, matures 11/28/22)	135,598
Total	\$ 172,800

Income & Expense: July 1 – Oct 1, 2022		
Programs	Income	Expense
Membership	1,494	0
Advertising	175	0
Grants	0	0
Conference	6,220	25
WMTA Competitions	990	3,668
MTNA Competitions	0	0
Administration	Income	Expense

Wages & Stipends	0	1, 210
Meetings & Travel	0	0
Printing, Postage, Publications	0	48
Supplies, Tools, Services	0	367
Insurance	0	500
Interest	1, 330	0
Net: \$ 4, 391	\$ 10, 209	\$ 5, 818

V. Reports of Program Chairs

a. Arts Awareness and Advocacy

Teresa Drews

Nothing to report

b. Badger Keyboard Competition

Mary Anne Olvera, NCTM

Dates and Venues for the Regional Keyboard Competitions are:

Sunday, May 7, 2023

South - Regional Keyboard Competition

Wisconsin Conservatory of Music

Saturday, May 13, 2023

NE - Regional Keyboard Competition

Adults, Duets, UW – O

Saturday, May 13, 2023

NW - Regional Keyboard Competition

UW-LX

Date and Venue for the new State Keyboard Competition is:

Saturday, May 20, 2023

UW-SP

Registration deadline for all Regional Keyboard events = April 5

Registration deadline for State Keyboard event = May 16

Both of these events carry new fees, with Regional fees = \$35, and the newly instituted State fee = \$40.

Because this is the second year that that this S Regional event has been held on a Sunday, it may be necessary to modify start times, typically 8:00, to assist church musicians.

All are prepping for the necessity/probability of doing background checks at the respective venue, with the understanding that each venue will deal with the safety of minors on campus in their own way.

The new State Keyboard Competition is organized (venue, eligibility and options, schedule.) This event is an all-day performance event, held in the recital hall. Admission will be charged (adults = \$10, non-participating students = \$5, under 5yo free). An awards ceremony will be held after all students have performed, and judges have made their final decisions, i.e., end of day.

With the help of a newly updated WMTA Judge's Directory, the process of contracting judges for these 4 events is underway.

c. Badger Vocal/Instrumental

Opala Bilhorn, NCTM

The 2023 State V/I/E Auditions are May 13 at UW-Oshkosh.

The new Ensemble Track is set to go for the 2023 Auditions. Information is being shared with the DCs and teachers.

I am continuing to work with Heather Reeder and others to update the WMTA Website to reflect our current rules for auditions and to be easier to navigate.

Myself, Sandra Statz and Mary Anne Olvera are giving a presentation at the October 2022 Conference on “Everything you need to know about WMTA Auditions.” The presentation will update membership on changes to Auditions as well as helpful practices for preparing their students to participate in Auditions.

d. Collaborative Performance Forum

Stacey Kraus, NCTM

Nothing to report.

e. College Faculty Representative

Nick Phillips, NCTM

I am glad to be back on the board serving WMTA in this position. I joined a little too late to get involved in having representation at the 2022 State Conference (by way of a collegiate poster session, for example), but plan to communicate with collegiate faculty about that moving forward. I would like to find ways to continue to engage with collegiate faculty and collegiate members, as well as expanding collegiate membership. In addition, I would welcome ideas on how this position can best serve WMTA.

f. District Auditions

Sandra Statz, NCTM

Let’s give a huge shout out to our 7/14 new DC’s who worked closely with veteran DC’s to have a successful 2022 Audition season! Thank you! Thank you to all teachers who lent the helping hands where needed. We also have the DC Google group where every DC can chime in and ask for help at any time. For the 2023 season, we will have 2 Districts with new DC’s. Thank you to all who make auditions successful!

Most changes to our audition fees, etc, were printed in the **August ’22 newsletter**. The website has had a lot of updates, along with an easy-to-follow flow chart to help teacher understand the various tracks and their requirements.

2023 auditions will be IN PERSON. Theory exams will be held on a District-to-District basis. Some districts will test in person on the day of auditions and others will hold their theory testing online.

All questions about auditions repertoire should be directed toward your District Chair. Teachers should collect fees from their students and then **write one check for the total of their entries made payable to WMTA**. Payments for entry fees must be submitted to the district chairperson via regular postal mail, or in person, before the application due date for your district. *There is no option for online payments.*

Current WMTA teachers who plan to enter students in the 2022 district auditions should have renewed their MTNA/WMTA membership before October 15. Meaning that MTNA should have had record of your payment by that date – it shouldn’t just be getting in the mail on Oct. 15. If

you missed that deadline, you can still enter students by renewing your membership now and including a \$150 late/renewal fee (written to WMTA) and sent to Sandra Statz (contact me for the address).

If you are new to WMTA AFTER Oct 15, 2022: Contact your District Chair so that they are sure to include you in on their emailed info.

g. Independent Music Teachers Forum

Tricia Marton

During 2022—2023, the two projects that I took on as IMTF Chair for WMTA is participating in The Gathering, a consortium of music educators from eastern Wisconsin. The Gathering is planning a Collaborative Project on the 19 th Century for Saturday, November 5, 2022, at UW-Green Bay’s main campus. Students of all ages and their teachers are able to perform, attend workshops and a recital, all FREE. The Gathering also collects and distributes event details from multiple organizations to encourage participation in music events throughout Wisconsin. I also organized a conference session for independent music teachers, Ask the Teacher. Three independent music teachers (Gail Heywood, Mickey Lytle and Tricia Marton) will answer questions submitted by teachers who attend the conference. This will give conference attendees different perspectives from teachers familiar with various Wisconsin markets on the issues most important to them.

h. Local Associations

Catherine Walby, NCTM

We have 13 local associations throughout the state of Wisconsin. SPAMTA (Stevens Point) and WAMTA (Wausau) are struggling with leadership and involvement from members. Both organizations have active district auditions which keep members engaged during specific times of the year.

10 LAs applied for the \$100 local association grant that is available to all LAs to support general programming or specific projects.

7 LAs nominated a member of the year, to be honored at the banquet during the 2022 state conference.

LA presidents met during the June board meetings and had a fruitful conversation on various topics. This included discussion about several arts projects happening in LaCrosse and Madison that are bringing excitement to those communities.

i. Media Chair

Juanita Becker, NCTM

I am enjoying being the Media Chair. I try to post something useful to piano and other music instructors every Friday (not always successfully, but that is the goal), as well as announcements regarding WMTA and other select professional development opportunities open to WMTA members. The number of people reached in the posts range from 39 to over 1,000. The largest numbers of people reached are in regards to competition results. I am open to suggestions for topics that teachers would like addressed, and or that teachers would like to discuss, or any other suggestions related to the Facebook page and how to reach more people/be relevant, etc.

j. MTNA Certification (NCTM)

(open)

Wisconsin MTA holds 23% in national ranking for certified members. As of May 20, 2022, Wisconsin has 67 certified teachers, two newly certified teachers since July 2021.

A reminder to all members: WMTA will reimburse application fees for our members who complete MTNA certification (\$200, \$100 for collegiate members).

The MTNA certification website can provide prospective teachers with plenty of information on how to complete the certification process.

We have 4 collegiate members and one active member who have started their NCTM process in August and September.

We have 2 collegiate members and one active member who have completed their certification in September.

k. MTNA Competitions Coordinator

Alana Laufman

i. Junior/Senior

Bethany Hartlaub

ii. Chamber Music/Young Artist

Kaju Lee, NCTM

The Wisconsin MTNA Competition will take place on Saturday, October 8, 2022 in Rice Lake, WI, as a live event. There are seven students competing in the Young Artist Piano Performance division and four students competing in the Senior Piano Performance division. One woodwind automatically advanced onto Young Artist Performance Woodwind.

Senior Piano Performance:

Winner- Nhi Quach

Alternate- Ilya Rice

Honorable Mention- Bohdan Tataryn

Young Artist Piano Performance:

Winner- Benjamin Keating

Alternate- Ami Hatori

Honorable Mention- Henry Giles

Young Artist Woodwind Performance:

Representative: Catherine Dyer

Videos featuring the winners will be sent to the WMTA email list within the coming weeks.

Many thanks to our judges who took the time to give fantastic feedback to all competitors: Dr. Kayme Henkel, Dr. Juanita Becker, and Emily Sternfeld-Dunn. I would also like to thank the Senior Coordinator, Bethany Hartlaub and Young Artist Coordinator, Kaju Lee, who attended and were extremely helpful in organizing this event.

l. MTNA Composer Commissioning

Michael Mizrahi

WMTA's last commissioned work, *The Red Devil Dreams of Numbers* by Evan Williams, was premiered virtually at the October 2020 WMTA conference. We will not have a commissioned work in 2022, but plans are underway for a new work to be commissioned by WMTA in 2023. WMTA has a rich history of commissioning works by today's most exciting young composers, including several composers from marginalized groups. I would encourage all WMTA members to explore [this link](#) to commissions over the past 10+ years, and consider purchasing scores for your or your students' use. Let's make WMTA a leader in championing new music!

m. MTNA/WMTA Composition Competition

Kaju Lee, NCTM

Wisconsin did not have any entrants this year for the MTNA composition competitions.

n. MTNA Foundation

Shannon Whaples, NCTM

Our 2023 Foundation Fellow auction will be announced in person at this year's conference. There is a silent auction just finishing up at the annual conference (following the annual meeting). Local Associations were encouraged to provide a gift basket to be auctioned or to donate toward the fellow fund. You can donate online at mtnafoundation.org or at the silent auction table. If you donate online, please be sure to assign your donation to the 2023 Wisconsin Fellow. Checks can be made out to MTNA with "2023 Wisconsin Fellow" in the memo line and given to Sydney Alexander before the conclusion of conference.

o. Teacher Award of Excellence

Drew Donica

Here are the award recipients for this year's Teacher Award of Excellence:

Barbara Froelich, 525-point bar
Roberta Grube, 200-point plaque and 225-point bar
Gail Heywood, 325-point bar
Deanna Lee, 125-point bar
David Reedy, 350-point bar
Rita Schumann, 250-point bar
Sandra Statz, 350-point bar

Congratulations on this awesome achievement! I will be stepping down as Teacher Award of Excellence chair. Need to free up some extra time as a new parent. Sandra Statz will be replacing me in this position. It has been a pleasure to serve in this capacity and I wish everyone all the best!

p. Wellness Forum Chair

Jessica Johnson, NCTM

Nothing to report. But lots of ideas and will hopefully be able to share next time around.

q. WMTA Student Compositions

Sam Ecoff

A total of 33 students from around the state entered WMTA's Young Composer Competition this year. We had five more entrants than last year, which is great news! We had 15 entries in the Elementary division (down one from last year), 13 entries in the Junior division (up from 10 last year), and five entries in the Senior division (down two from last year).

The awardees from this year's competition were as follows:

In the Elementary division

Winner: Dance of the Pumpkins by Simon McCandless
Runner Up: Mr. Alberti's Nature Hike by Christopher J. Nelson

In the Junior division

Winner: Woodwind Quartet No. 1 by Charlie Plante
Runner Up: The New Dawn by Aniket Singh
Honorable Mention: The Abandoned Treehouse Mansion by Brianna Yang

Honorable Mention: Midmorning Marmalade by Krin Blegen

In the Senior division

Winner: Swan Song by Isabella Nichols

Runner Up: Jello by Aiden Gorr

Our judge for the event was Dr. Mara Gibson, Associate Professor of Music Composition at Louisiana State University. She was very impressed by the diversity and quality of this year's entries.

Checks have been mailed to the winner's teachers. Points have not yet been entered on the Ovation system as it was down at the time the competition finished. This is a job the next chair will need to see to.

I have truly enjoyed serving as the WMTA Young Composer Competition chair these past three years, and I am very sorry to have to step away from that role at this time. It is my sincere hope that I can serve WMTA again in some capacity in the future.

VI. Standing/Special Committees

a. Finance

Sydney Alexander

b. Nominating

N/A

Nothing to report.

VII. Old Business

a. None

VIII. New Business

a. **Summary of actions by Executive Board** **Mickey Lytle, NCTM**

The Executive Board met on Thursday to discuss progress of Slingshot, BIB, 3 CDs, rates changes, Finance committee approval of expenditures over \$500, background checks, presenter compensation for conferences, student/teacher names published on programs and newsletters, corporate and individual sponsorships for conferences

X. Announcements

a. Next Annual Business Meeting Luncheon: Saturday, October 21, 2023, at WMTA State Conference in LaCrosse.

b. Next Administrative Council Meetings are tentatively set for Friday, June 16, 2023. Location TBA.

XI. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned 1:02pm. Motion to adjourn, Sandra Statz, Nick Phillips seconded the motion, motion carried by consensus

Minutes respectfully submitted by Genia Allard, NCTM