



WMTA Executive Board
Meeting Minutes (approved 10/21/23)
Friday, June 16, 2023
Lawrence University, Appleton WI

Meeting Minutes – recorded by Nick Phillips

- I. Call to Order/Welcome
Meeting called to order at 9:33am by Mickey Lytle.
Present: Sydney Alexander, Opala Bilhorn, Roberta Grube, Rachel Fritz, Justin Krueger, Hector Landa, Mickey Lytle, Mary Anne Olvera, Nick Phillips.
Unable to attend: Tricia Marton
- II. Adoption of Agenda
Adopted by consensus. Motion by Rachel Fritz, second by Catherine Walby.
- III. Approval of Minutes from February 2023 meeting.
Approved by consensus. Motion by Rachel Fritz, second by Justin Krueger.
- IV. Reports of Officers
 - a. President Mickey Lytle, NCTM
New appointment for Wellness Chair is Diana Shapiro, who will be at UW-Whitewater. Discussion about Cadence, the new database; it is moving along but not yet ready. Canceling an insurance policy that was attached to the old office in Waunakee. This will save a little money.
 - b. Immediate Past President Rachel Fritz
Every UW school is different with implementing background checks. Rachel created a spreadsheet to track each site and their requirements. It was agreed that the point person for background checks needs to be a Board Member.
 - c. 1st VP-Conference Hector Landa
Hector is communicating with the presenters whose proposals were chosen. Schedule should be out in a few weeks. Dr. Johnathan Sokasits (Hastings College, Nebraska) will be the conference artist. He will give a lecture-recital, teaching demonstration, and recital. The plan is to have the schedule out in a few weeks, and to have registration set by August. There was discussion about what meals would be covered, and what would be on attendee's own.
 - d. 2nd VP-Membership Justin Krueger, NCTM
212 members currently. Many haven't renewed yet, and reminders will be sent. It was noted that membership is a concern at the national level, too.
 - e. Treasurer Sydney Alexander
We paid for 5 years of hosting for Cadence, to get a significant discount on the rate. Mickey asked about the 990 and the audit. Sydney mentioned she will prepare it this

V. Reports of Program Chairs

- ## VI. Standing/Special Committees

- a. Finance Sydney Alexander
- i. Collegiate grants
Discussion about Summer Study Grants. Committee answered questions about how the awards were made, and why the amounts were chosen. Rachel Fritz moved the accept the proposal. Second by Hector Landa. Approved by unanimous vote.
- ii. Hosting Stipend Policy
Discussion of hosting stipend, and amendments to the proposed language. Catherine moves to approve. Justin seconds. Unanimous approval.

Mickey brought up that we are also evaluating judging rates in terms of hours, so that there is consistency (ex: are judges paid for the morning meeting, short morning/afternoon break, etc.)

- b. Nominating Catherine Walby, NCTM

- i. President-Elect

Mary Tollefson is our President-Elect candidate. She is excited to give back to WMTA. Board members were encouraged to reach out and welcome Mary.

VII. Old Business

- a. Slingshot database plan Rachel & Mickey

- b. Background checks Rachel

- i. Concerns about extra fees when volunteers are sent

The issue is paying for background checks when teachers send volunteers in their place. Discussion took place about whether to charge teachers who use volunteers for background checks. Questions about how many volunteers are actually needed, and this will be revisited so that there aren't too many volunteers. This needs more thought, and the board recognizes that there are many reasons why teachers may need to send a volunteer to work their shift. Tabled to October.

- c. Composition Festival judges' compensation Mickey

Members compared several regional state options. Catherine Walby made a motion to pay judges 75% of the entry fee. Roberta Grube seconded. Adopted by unanimous vote.

VIII. New Business

- a. Collegiate chapters conference presentation Nick

The board considered whether or not to compensate collegiate members for presentations. We discussed "sponsor a student" options like MTNA/NCKP. There is a general interest in keeping things simple, and having students interact with the membership (as opposed to having to eat on their own, for example). Agreement was made not to pay collegiate presenters. Will look at cost to keep student registration down, with a line on the registration form for interested regular members to contribute towards a general pool of funds that would assist students.

- b. Policy about commercial presentations at conference Hector

The board agreed that it is best practice to not accepting commercial proposals, but recognize anything can happen in the moment of the presentation. Make clear presenters would need to pay for a booth if they wish to sell an item they might have brought and/or mentioned in their presentation.

- c. Policy approval of State Keyboard arrangements Mickey

Catherine Walby moved to adopt the same policy as we use for the MTNA chair as it relates to mileage and hotel reimbursement. Justin Krueger seconded. Approved by unanimous vote. Lunch will not be provided to volunteers moving forward.

- d. Commissioned Composer, Foundation Fellow Mickey

The board agreed to not name a Foundation Fellow for 2024.

- e. Proposed Bylaws Changes Mickey, Rachel

- i. Competition titling

- ii. Combining Regional/State Keyboard chair

- iii. Arts Awareness & Advocacy chair: combine or eliminate position?

Rachel Fritz and Catherine Walby will go through to look for changes needed to publish in August newsletter. Nick Phillips moved to eliminate the Arts Awareness and Advocacy Forum Chair. Rachel Fritz seconded. Adopted by unanimous vote.

- f. Auditions Revamping Mary Anne, Rachel
 - i. Revisit rubric, judges, trophies, out of region competing, etc
Mary Anne Olvera suggests foregoing trophies for all but state. High cost, shipping costs. Different options will be researched and brought to the October meeting.

Mary Anne Olvera suggested that only exceptions for students that are involved in strings and solo piano. Nick Phillips moved to require students compete in the Regional that is associated with their District, with the exception of students V/I/E competitors. Catherine Walby seconded. Approved by unanimous vote. Catherine Walby moved to move duets and adult track out of Keyboard and into V/I/E. Rachel Fritz seconded. Approved by unanimous vote.

On the possibility of a track name change – the board recognized the importance, but old track names are entered in Cadence and this would be complicated.

Nick Phillips will initiate new language for the rubric for points at District in consultation with DCs. Sydney will put a list of listening examples for different stylistic periods for the theory exams.

- ii. Cadence database
- IX. Announcements
- a. Next Executive Board is Thursday, October 19, 2023, at 8pm, at the WMTA Annual Conference in La Crosse (reports and agenda items are due October 5 via google form); Annual Luncheon Meetings is on Saturday, October 21, in La Crosse (reports and agenda items are due October 5 via google form).
 - b. Next June's Executive Board and Administrative Council Meetings are tentatively set for Friday, June 14, 2024
 - c. We will set the date for the February 2023 Executive Board Zoom meeting at our October meeting.
- X. Adjournment
Adjourned at 12:00pm

Reports of Officers

President

Mickey Lytle, NCTM

New appointments:

- District Auditions State Chair (outgoing chair Sandra Statz; incoming chair Roberta Grube, effective 6/1/23) THANK YOU SANDRA! WELCOME ROBERTA!

-Collaborative Performance (chair was vacated by Stacey Kraus who moved to Certification Chair; recently filled by Shuk-ki Wong) WELCOME SHUK-KI!

Vacancies:

-Wellness (outgoing chair Jess Johnson, effective 5/18/23; a new appointment is pending)
THANK YOU JESS!

-Arts Awareness & Advocacy (effective 1/5/23)

-Highlights:

- MTNA is implementing a National Senior Discount beginning in 2024 and this discount will filter to the state and local levels. This is coming with a new website and database with MTNA to streamline the dues collection process. Watch for more information on this change.
- Working with Hector et al on many aspects of conference
- Working on insurance renewal and streamlining WMTA's insurance policies.
- Attended MTNA national conference in Reno & State Keyboard and assisted with social media.
- Cadence: Rachel Fritz and I are still working on issues with email addresses discovered with Slingshot since deployment. Outstanding ticket (since March) on legacy points coming over is a concern. Also working on having one provider for web services instead of three and getting those things changed over; this came about due to Slingshot having issues with emails but should be a great convenience for future leadership. It will soon be time for 4 additional leaders to assist Rachel with data entry.

Immediate Past President

Rachel Fritz

This was the first audition season with the UW system security protocols. As expected, each school is implementing protocols differently. This has been challenging to track. Also, many of the procedures are in development. WMTA did complete background checks as requested.

Regarding WMTA background check procedures, there were a few challenges:

- 1) Completion of background checks in a timely manner. This was the biggest issue, volunteers would wait until it became closer to the event and then their link would have expired. Then it became an emergency to get a new link sent and completed.
- 2) Lack of completion of the entire form causing it not to move forward in completion.

Something for WMTA to consider is our policy if a teacher sends multiple volunteers to audition events. The cost for a teacher sending multiple different volunteers for audition events does add to costs.

Regarding Cadence, background checks took up more time than I anticipated. At the time of this writing, I am working on getting email addresses into Cadence so that logins can be shared. I am also following up on outstanding issues.

1st VP-Conference

Hector Landa

No report submitted.

2nd VP-Membership

Justin Krueger, NCTM

No report submitted.

Treasurer

Sydney Alexander

Wisconsin Music Teachers Association

Treasurer Report – June 2023

Account Balances: June 1, 2023	
Checking	13,884
Money Market	CLOSED 11/30/22
Square	0
CD 2597 (4.50%, matures 10/28/27)	102,184
CD 2363 (4.00%, matures 10/30/25)	38,136
Total	\$ 154,204

Income & Expense: July 1, 2022 – June 1, 2023		
Programs	Income	Expense
Membership	3,009	0
Advertising	650	0
Grants	750	4,441
Conference	7,050	10,381
WMTA Competitions	50,701	56,541
MTNA Competitions	700	1,101
Administration	Income	Expense
Wages & Stipends	0	5,460
Meetings & Travel	0	1,246
Printing, Postage, Publications	0	984
Supplies, Tools, Services	0	852
Insurance	0	500
Interest	6,121	0
Net: \$ - 12,525	\$ 68,981	\$ 81,506

Notes:

- WMTA Competitions expenses include \$11,893 for 5 years of hosting & support for the new Cadence database (\$2,378 per year).

Reports of Program Chairs

Arts Awareness and Advocacy

open chair

no report

WMTA Regional Keyboard Competition

Mary Anne Olvera, NCTM

REGIONAL KEYBOARD COMPETITIONS, 2023

TOTAL REGISTRATION - 269 (328)

(All numbers in parentheses = 2022 figures)

BREAKDOWN BY REGION/DIVISION

S REGIONAL - WISCONSIN CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC

Registered entrants - 129 (136)

Divisions:

4 - 15 (14)	7 - 18 (18)	10 - 11 (16)
5 - 21 (14)	8 - 15 (13)	11 - 10 (10)
6 - 11 (27)	9 - 14 (13)	12 - 8 (11)

NE REGIONAL - UW-OSHKOSH

Registered entrants - 99 (123)

Divisions:

DNA - 2

4 - 6 (19)	7 - 13 (20)	10 - 12 (9)	
5 - 24 (14)	8 - 7 (11)	11 - 4 (6)	
6 - 14 (19)	9 - 4 (10)	12 - 6 (5)	
	Duet Teams - 5 (5)	Adult - 1	

NW REGIONAL - UW-LA CROSSE

Registered entrants - 41 (69)

Divisions:

4 - 4 (6)	7 - 4 (5)	10 - 1 (8)
5 - 8 (17)	8 - 5 (12)	11 - 1 (6)
6 - 5 (10)	9 - 8 (12)	12 - 5 (1)

There is a significant change in numbers from 2022-2023.....does this require a closer look?

This was the second year for database-less registrations - all managed sufficiently, despite the additional work. All 3 venues successfully hosted the Regional event, with only S Regional posing any 'issues'. Most were pleasantly surprised at the venue (WCM), and also pleasantly surprised that there were no assumed parking difficulties.

S Regional experimented with a late start at teacher request, and staggered start for smaller grade levels, so all grades ended at about the same time. We tried it, I don't anticipate scheduling it this way again. I do not believe that the later start helped teachers sufficiently enough to repeat this, it, by necessity, pushed the recital to quite late, and many did not like the staggered start.

NE and NW events were staged successfully, with an additional need at NE for 'all hands on deck' to manage unforeseen circumstances.

Dates for 2024 Regional events are:

NE Regional = Saturday, May 11, UWSP

NW Regional = Saturday, May 11, UWEC

S Regional = (*currently in conversation with UW-Madison, this is not confirmed*) Sunday May 12

WMTA (True) State Keyboard

Mary Anne Olvera, NCTM

TRUE STATE KEYBOARD COMPETITION, 2023

TOTAL REGISTRATION - 17

WMTA's inaugural Keyboard Competition was staged on Saturday, May 20 at UW-Stevens Point to great success! This was a very well planned and well prepared-for event, and there were no unforeseen events. This ran very smooth, with minimal teacher volunteer help needed, at least in this first year.

Students were scheduled to 15-minute slots in warm-up rooms ½ hr. prior to their assigned performance time. There were ample grands to warm up on.

The student performance schedule ran smoothly, adjudicators had the time needed to determine their winner.

Quality of pianism was very high, which provided the stimulus and motivation desired for all involved students.

All individuals that went into the recital hall paid admission, with a purse at days end of +\$200. Admission was a day pass, so individuals could come and go as needed. This worked very smoothly.

After a substantial amount of out-reach, \$750 was raised, with contributions from PianoArts and Heid Music Family Charitable Fund. I will build on this for next year.

While there was a very high degree of competition, there was also a very high level of focus and concentrated effort. A competition at this level goes a very long way to stimulating and motivating students, to building community within the student musician group, to raising the bar for many students, to building confidence and self-esteem.

Every one of the students that played did so with grace, courage and finesse, despite memory lapses or finger fumbles, displaying masterful recoveries.

UW-Stevens Point is a wonderful venue for this event, as we were confined to one fairly small area. There was ample availability of grand pianos, the hall had an intimate feel to it, not overwhelming for students, and the students were obviously enjoying the beauty of the concert grand on stage.

At days end, I had the sense that students were very excited for the opportunity they had to play in this competition. Parents seemed very impressed with all of the performances and the event overall. This is

clearly a wonderful addition to the menu of opportunities WMTA offers to our students, and seems to be something that students will focus on as a goal for their year.
I was so very pleased to be able to see this through.....

Next year's True State event will be on Saturday, May 18, at UW-Stevens Point.

WMTA Regional/State Vocal/Instrumental/Ensemble Opala Bilhorn, NCTM

The 2023 Regional Vocal/Instrumental Competition ran smoothly. Several teachers commented that it was a positive experience for themselves and the students who participated. A particular highlight this year for the Vocal/Instrumental/Ensemble State was the, "Winners Recital," which was more intentionally coordinated with the Keyboard Winners.

Here are the participation numbers from the past 4 State V/I/E events we have held.

2019 UW-Whitewater	2021 Virtual	2022 UW-Stevens Point	2023 UW-Oshkosh
String -14 Vocal – 20 Woodwind & Brass – 4 Total 28	String – 18 Vocal – 15 Total 33	String – 14 Vocal – 17 Total 31	String – 7 Vocal – 14 Ensemble – 1 Woodwind – 1 Total 23 entries (26 students b/c ensemble)

The Ensemble Track was positively received in its first year. Two ensembles participated in the Whitewater District round and possibly others in other locations. One ensemble participated at the State Competition. Students appreciated the opportunity to compete with peers and their adjudicators praised the students' achievement.

I plan to make at least one college visit this Fall to share about the WMTA V/I/E competition with future music teachers and hopefully educate faculty as well as individuals who can be ongoing advocates for the WMTA Competition opportunity for future independent music teachers.

In October 2023 Mary Anne Olvera, Roberta Grube and myself will be presenting a WMTA Fall Conference session on auditions. The sessions that Sandra Statz, Mary Anne Olvera and I presented in October 2022 was well attended with active audience engagement.

Throughout the year I have continued make updates to the website relevant to State V/I/E.

The 2024 State V/I/E Competition is Saturday, May 11th at UW-Stevens Point. The registration deadline will possibly be April 3, 2024.

College Faculty Representative

Nick Phillips, NCTM

I wrote collegiate faculty members in April to encourage them to have students submit proposals for poster presentation and/or 20-minute accelerated session topics on a wide variety of topics. I also included this in the newsletter.

District Auditions

Sandra Statz, NCTM (outgoing chair)

It is with Excitement for the future of WMTA auditions and competitions and with appreciation for my past 23 years as District Chair and State District Chair that I pass the State chair position to Roberta Grube. I'm also grateful that Abby Patchet assumed my DC position 4 years ago and now that baton is being passed down too. I'm grateful for all who step up into positions so that everyone can learn and this continues to be a group effort to serve our Wisconsin Music Teachers and their students. Thank you for the many great memories.

Thank you to all the volunteers that make the auditions possible! Please be sure to give a HUGE thank you to your LOCAL DISTRICT CHAIRS! While everyone volunteers their time: students, parents, teachers, District Chairs, AND State Chairs (yes, even I and your Badger Competition Chairs, Mary Anne Olvera and Opala Bilhorn do), I think our local DC's need a huge thank you! The local District Chairs are part of a Google Group where they can reach out for help anytime. I have loved learning that the DC is the person who learns to delegate, and the districts work together SO AMAZINGLY to help each other. Every teacher is important when it comes to auditions. Auditions are never a one-person show. There is a HUGE reward on audition day for all teachers/DC's as they see the students come. My heart is SO full just talking about it! To all DC's: way to go!

At this time locations and audition dates are being confirmed throughout the state for the 2024 auditions. One final reminder to all, this is the time of year to BE SURE YOUR WMTA MEMBERSHIP is paid! Teachers who renew by early October will be allowed to enter the '24 auditions without a non-member fee. The \$150 non-member fee is required for those whose renewal is recorded after October 15.

Independent Music Teachers Forum

Tricia Marton, NCTM

No report submitted.

Local Associations

Catherine Walby, NCTM

Nothing to report. I'll have more for October.

Standing/Special Committees

Finance

Sydney Alexander

Summer Study Grants

- WMTA awards up to \$2000 annually to college students to support study at summer music programs. Applicants must be undergraduate or graduate students currently studying with a WMTA member.
- The Finance Committee reviewed the 6 applications received and proposes the following grants for approval by the Executive Board:
 - \$600 to Lucian Baxter

- Lawrence student, piano
 - New Music Gathering – Portland State University
- \$600 to Rinako Kishi
 - Lawrence senior, piano
 - InterHarmony Music Festival – Italy
- \$350 to Jonathan Bass
 - Lawrence junior, piano
 - University of North Carolina School of the Arts Summer Piano Intensive
- \$350 to Nathaniel Tang
 - Lawrence junior, piano
 - InterHarmony Music Festival – Italy
- \$100 to Catherine Dyer
 - UW-Milwaukee masters student, saxophone
 - European University of Saxophone - France
- \$0 to Ellycea Richman
 - Ineligible – not studying with WMTA member

Hosting stipend policy:

WMTA pays all our auditions site hosts a \$200 stipend to cover any facility usage & piano tuning costs incurred by the site on behalf of our event. If this \$200 exceeds facility expenses, the site may keep the additional funds as a donation to their music program. If site expenses exceed \$200, WMTA may be able to cover additional costs as needed.

Nominating

Catherine Walby, NCTM

Nomination for President-Elect: Mary Tollefson

Old Business Notes/Attachments

Background checks

From Rachel: I am wondering if we should require teachers that send volunteer to pay for the background checks for the volunteer. This is coming up as I am aware that for Parkside there was one teacher that needed to send two volunteers to cover their shift. So WMTA needed to run two background checks instead of one. Eau Claire and Whitewater also had several parent volunteers. There is a challenge with this, WMTA is planning on the background check being used multiple years. With parent volunteers I would not expect that the teacher would use the same one each year. I might be wrong about that. Another item that I am seeing is that a teacher might send a different volunteer to regional and then to state. So then there are multiple volunteers that are needing background checks for one teacher in one year.

Composition Adjudicator Compensation

Oklahoma just raised to \$25 per composition; it had been at \$20 for many years.

Minnesota:

Composition judges are paid on a per composition basis, which is also dependent on the level. I have attached a screenshot of those payment amounts. Additionally, there is a \$50 per judge minimum payment.

Non-Timed Events:

Event	Endorsed Judge Payment	Other Judge Payment
Composition Contest and Festival: Primary	\$14.40	\$14.40
Composition Contest and Festival: Elementary	\$17.25	\$17.25
Composition Contest and Festival: Junior	\$21.60	\$21.60
Composition Contest and Festival: Senior	\$24.50	\$24.50

Indiana: IMTA is paying judges for our state composition competitions \$25.00 per composition regardless of divisions. We found that it was the easiest way for the competition chairs and IMTA treasurer to keep track of things. Also, the judges are guaranteed a minimum of \$100.

North Carolina: Pays their judge 75% of the entry fee.

New Business Notes/Attachments

Collegiate Chapter/Member Presentations at Conference

Consider honorarium?

Commercial Presentations at Conference

Is there a set policy already in place?

State Keyboard

Need to set policy for hotel/mileage reimbursement for the State Keyboard chair (similar to the MTNA chair?); need to set policy for lunch arrangement for volunteers and judges.

Proposed Bylaws Changes

<https://www.wisconsinmusicteachers.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/WMTA-Constitution-and-Bylaws-July-2020.pdf>

Auditions Revamping

Mary Anne suggests:

1. Foregoing trophies at all but State level and consider something else like medals. Certificates should be a constant
2. No more allowing out of region entries if on state track
3. Moving duets, adult track out of keyboard and putting with V/I/E
4. 2023 judging issues, specifically district judging

Opala suggests:

1. Track name changing

Rachel & Mickey suggest:

1. Getting Cadence up and running first before making too many system changes
2. Cleaning up issues with changes implemented this year before a big revamp

Correspondence regarding auditions:

Mary Anne,

Could there be a discussion brought to the table for the exec mtg this Friday regarding the availability of a list of the winning literature from Regionals and/or True State?

I hesitate to make more work for someone but decades ago I remember WMTA producing such a list. As a young teacher I found this list extremely helpful in my future teaching.

Obviously, in this age of computers, organizing and publishing such a list on-line/website should be much easier than it was prior to the ubiquitous PC's.

Thank you,
Barbara Froelich, NCTM

Roberta,

Could there be a discussion at the executive meeting this Friday June 16 concerning WMTA producing a suggested list of literature being available for student's listening? My students find the current "listening" to identify style periods on the theory test is very, very broad.

Might there be resource through MTNA for such list, possibly designed by other state associations?

Thank you,
Barbara Froelich, NCTM